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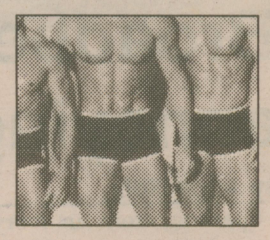

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March 11, 1999 Vol 51 Issue 25

Drivers back in business: all that bus fuss is over

by Sarah Leipciger

That bus strike didn't hurt too much—not for UVic students at least.

UVic made concessions both inside and outside the classroom for students last week in light of the special circumstances that arose due to the B.C. Transit drivers strike, which ended last Tuesday.

University President Dr. David Strong sent an email to all deans and department heads imploring teachers to make concessions for students having trouble getting to campus.

"I would ask that during the strike you accomodate those students unavoidably disadvantaged by the current events...flexibility with scheduled events such as assignment deadlines and mid-term examinations may be appropriate," he wrote.

Instructors were also asked to inform their students about the Ride Share program, which was a created by volunteer students and B.C. Transit drivers. Both groups offered rides to and from UVic during the strike.

Whether or not all instructors followed Strong's suggestion is uncertain, but according to LeAnne Golinsky, assistant director of the Bachelor of Commerce program, her department didn't receive any complaints from students.

"We haven't heard from anybody who had a problem," she said.

Classroom schedules were not the only way that the university adapted to the unique situation posed by the strike. Parking enforcers also lightened their policies.

Gordon Dash, traffic and parking coordinator, said that parking regulations were relaxed on parking lots outside Ring Road for two days of the strike in anticipation of more cars making their way to campus. Instead of issuing parking tickets, traffic tucked "warm and fuzzy" notices under people's wipers, said Dash.

Dash conceded that although the leniency was intended to help students out during the strike, it was also a result of malfunctioning permit dispensers.

Buses were back in action on Tuesday morning after week-long deliberations between B.C. Transit and Canadian Auto Workers, the drivers' union.

Buses were back in action on Tuesday morning after week-long deliberations between B.C. Transit and CAW

Sixty-five maintenance workers and 402 drivers were striking on the issues of workers' rights, occupational health and safety and washrooms.

As for March student bus passes, they are currently being sold for the full price of $32, and students will be able to collect either $16 in cash or a rebate off their April passes for the same amount. According to Terri Tan from the Info booth in the SUB, students cannot receive any sort of compensation until April because B.C. Transit requires the actual passes in their hands before they'll give students their money back for the missed days of travel.

Bob's back on the job...

Bob Jones is glad to be driving his bus again.

Martlet photo by Peter Booth

"Unofficial" left slate in the house again

by Rolf Harrison

Despite the bus drivers' strike that may have kept some voters away from UVic's student elections last week, 31 per cent of the student electorate showed up at the polls to decide the fate of the U-Pass and next year's student representatives.

A two-thirds majority of referendum voters approved the U-Pass, which, of all the election issues, attracted the greatest number of students to the polls. Nearly four times the amount of last year's total voter turnout voted in favour of the universal bus pass that will cost all students $44 a term starting this September.

"It wasn't only the controversial issue that brought students out to vote," said Summer McFadyen, who was elected the new director of finance for UVic's students' society. "We worked hard to make people aware of the election."

Last week, the students' society coordinated a system for car drivers to share rides with students who were stranded during the bus strike.

"Voter turnout perhaps would have been higher without the transit strike," said Rob Fleming, the current UVSS chair. He attributes the relatively high turnout to media coverage of the U-Pass, a well-promoted election and a well-informed student body.

Only two of the voting stations didn't see a majority of votes in favour of the U-Pass. The "no" vote had a slim majority in the Classroom Building and the Engineering Wing.

"Those numbers could reflect the high number of car drivers among those students," said Anita Zaenker. "They have a user-fee mentality. They don't support green initiatives or universal programs."

In a separate election, UVic's graduate students also approved the U-Pass with a 68 per cent "yes" vote, and students at Camosun College will go to the polls later this month.

"We have a clear enough majority that we can sign a contract," said McFadyen. "But we'd like other groups to come aboard."

In a second referendum question, an 88.3 per cent majority of voters approved decreasing and restructuring students' society fees, lowering them by $3.75 and reallocating increased levies to CFUV, *the Martlet*, the Canadian Federation of Students, the Office of the Ombudsperson and clubs and course unions.

Morgan Stewart, the only candidate running for chair, was approved by over 80 per cent, as was the lone candidate running for director of services, incumbent Chris Moon, and incoming director of finance Summer McFadyen.

Kari Worton won the only multi-candidate race for a position on the UVSS executive, beating her opponent Sean McCaffrey for director of academics by 559 votes.

There were 13 candidates running for the 11 director-at-large positions, which will be filled by new members Alice Byers, Allison Therriault, Lewis Oladuntoye, Jenny Amber Petch, Ben Pollard, Stacy Slager, Kirsten Patterson, John Trueman and Jonas Gifford. Current UVSS chair Rob Fleming and director-at-large Matt Markson round out the positions and will both be returning to the board next year as volunteer directors.

Due to a change in electoral policy, candidates were for the first time allowed to campaign during the election which, according to Zaenker, also may have helped to increase voter turnout.

"You could tell there was a buzz on campus," Zaenker said. "When students went to vote, they were more informed than usual."

Election results will not be finalized until all mail-in ballots have been tallied, but Chief Electoral Officer Michael Joyce said he is only expecting about 30 ballots to be returned, which will not affect any of the candidate races or referendum results.

No seat, no sweater

by Mary Vallis

Every election race has its winners and its losers, and this year's student society elections were no exception. Two candidates for director-at-large did not make it onto the UVSS elections—James Rowe and Jeremy Denegar.

"When you've got 13 candidates for 11 positions, someone's got to come in last. And that's something to celebrate," said Rowe, who lost a seat on the board by 42 votes.

And Rowe is indeed planning to celebrate. During his campaign, Rowe promised to wear the same sweater every day if he was elected to the board. He's planning to burn that sweater in a token gesture this week.

"I'm going to exercise the demons and put an end to it all," said Rowe. "It's a pyrotechnics show to cap off what was an extremely successful election."

Rowe has a serious attachment to the sweater he promised to wear every day, so he'll be burning another acrylic sweater instead. But he says the act will still prove his point: "It's all in the symbolism of the act. The sweater doesn't really matter."

The burning is set for Thursday, March 11 at 2:30 p.m. at the Petch fountain.

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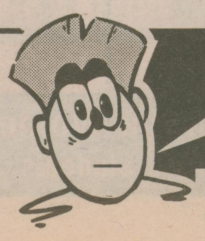

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Broadbent speech annoyingly academic

by Anna Roik

Speaking from an ivory tower more fitting for a political science class than for a Sunday gathering of left-leaning Victorians, Ed Broadbent discussed the question: "Social democracy or liberalism?"

Broadbent, leader of the federal New Democratic Party from 1975 to 1989, currently holds a teaching position at Simon Fraser University. He spoke for over an hour, outlining the global competition from liberal ideology facing the free world today, and stumbled over several current-event questions posed by the audience.

"Many have said the time for social democracy to prove itself is up," said Broadbent. "But if liberalism has been with us for 300 years, why is social democracy given less than 50 years?"

According to Broadbent, social democracy is fundamentally different from liberalism because it recognizes social rights alongside the market economy. Liberalism, he says, doesn't have this sense for equality of opportunity as everything is dictated by capitalist principles.

However, Broadbent admits that even a social democratic state is dependent on the productive efficiency of the market to maintain a comfortable level.

"Because of this, social democrats sanction private ownership, competition and differences in income. We accept many of the inequalities coming from a class-based capitalist economy," he said.

Broadbent added that with progressive taxation and the presence of social rights ensuring equality among a majority of citizens, the negative effects of market-based inequality can be reduced.

But Broadbent provided few examples of current issues facing social democratic governments today and then coasted through the post-lecture question period.

Though most of the questions were easy for the past government leader to answer, two questions threw him for a loop. One audience member in particular placed Broadbent on the spot, demanding to know what his position was on the nationalization of industry to save jobs. The question revolved around the Devco mine closure in Cape Breton and the impending mill closure in Gold River, B.C. Both closures will significantly impact these communities as hundreds of workers will be laid off.

After admitting that he didn't know what Gold River was, Broadbent looked around the room and asked if any members of the media were still present.

Seeing a reporter or two left over, Broadbent said this was the only question he wouldn't be completely candid about. For Broadbent, nationalization is not a good idea because bureaucrats are not good at running business.

"Bureaucrats shouldn't use taxpayers' money to keep business going that otherwise wouldn't," he said. "The private sector must survive on a competitive basis, and governments must lay the foundation for them to do that."

Instead, says Broadbent, governments should stick to creation and maintenance of social programs, something they do well.

Employers battle for summer funding

by Rolf Harrison

A business association is asking Victoria city council for money to fund a grassroots youth employment project this summer, but some councilors are worried that the program won't help youth who need jobs the most.

Last Thursday, Victoria's Business Improvement Association (BIA) asked the city council for a grant of $25,000 for a project that could employ up to four youths. The job description involves educating downtown business owners about how to manage their store-fronts, which includes removing graffiti, cleaning windows and discouraging loiterers.

According to BIA president Don Manning, the majority of that $100,000 would pay wages for four year-long positions or a part-time equivalent.

The competing organizations include the Victoria Street Community Association, which produces the near-bankrupt *Red Zone* magazine and several downtown work creation projects like the Bent Nail, another baby of the street community association that provides work experience for its participants.

Friedland wants the BIA to hire unemployed youth living downtown, although the organization did not outline a hiring policy for youth in its proposal.

Last year, the first group of liaison officers implementing the Five Star program came from Off the Curb, a cleaning services company that arose as a pilot project to employ former street youth. This group of officers, which included about a dozen street youth, was paid through a federal grant.

Off the Curb recruits street youth by paying some of its workers to distribute flyers to friends on the streets.

This year, the improvement association is unwilling to hire workers from Off the Curb, which now operates by its own revenue, because it would have to pay the company's administration costs.

"If they're going to take $25,000 in city money then we have something to say about who they hire."

Two other organizations, Tourism Victoria and Victoria AM, applied for the same bank of grant money, which may end up split between the applicants when council makes its final decisions today.

Councilor Bob Friedland asked the association for specific information on their project following their presentation.

"I have a problem with the association, which gets significant public money already, asking for more money when other small community organizations get turned down," said Friedland.

The grant would fund part of a $100,000 budget for a program called Five Star Welcome. The program began last July and now recruits volunteers helping

"[The business association] shouldn't hire someone home for the summer in Oak Bay," Friedland said.

But Manning says his association will be hard-pressed to find a solution to Friedland's concerns before city council votes to approve or reject the grant today.

"Ours is the only proposal that has as its objective to hire youth," Manning pointed out.

Manning said that the hiring would have a bias towards disenfranchised youth, but it would be difficult to enforce such a hiring policy if interviewers can't inquire about an applicant's income or residence.

"We have a good track record helping youth to get employed," said Manning. "If I was a guardian of city money, the grant would be a good investment."

As a response to city council's concerns, administrators at the improvement association decided last Monday that they would open up the new jobs to employment agencies trying to hire disenfranchised youth.

"If they're going to take $25,000 in city money," said councilor Friedland. "Then we have something to say about who they hire."

A WEEK OF UVIC EVENTS TO COMMEMORATE THE UNITED NATIONS DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION ON MARCH 21

MONDAY 15	TUESDAY 16	WEDNESDAY 17	THURSDAY 18	FRIDAY 19	SATURDAY 20	SUNDAY 21
HUMAN RIGHTS FAIR information tables in the SUB **Monday to Friday** ***Focus on Books*** dealing with diversity issues in UVic Bookstore **Monday to Friday** ***Multi-cultural menu*** in UVic Food Services **Monday to Friday Poster display** in lobby of 10 buildings	**HUMAN RIGHTS FAIR Amnesty International 'Human Rights Cage'** in the SUB **12:00 - 2:00pm MEHMOONA MOOSA-MITHA Lecture** ***Hosted by the UVSS Women's Centre and Women's Studies Dept.*** Refreshments provided Cinecenta SUB	**HUMAN RIGHTS FAIR Amnesty International 'Human Rights Cage'** in the SUB **Noon to 1pm LET'S TALK "Human Rights and Accommodation" Discussion** ***hosted by CUPE 951 MacLaurin*** D107 **7:30pm MICHAEL PARENTI "Racism and Class Power" Lecture** ***hosted by VIPIRG, Political Science Dept., BCGEU, BBCF and others*** Multipurpose Rm, SUB	**2:00pm-10pm CFUV Radio show "Elimination of Racism"** ***presented by the Native Students Union & UVic CAR*** **7:30 -8:30pm LEIGH PHILLIPS "Kurdish National Question" Lecture** ***hosted by the International Socialists*** SUB Upper Lounge **6:00- 10:00pm A MOSAIC: CELEBRATION OF CULTURES** ***Hosted by Equity Issues, VIPIRG, UVic Orientation*** SUB Multi-Purpose Room	**11:30 to 1pm "REFUGEES" AND "OVERSEAS OPPORTUNITIES" Workshop** ***hosted by World University Service of Canada*** Centre for Innovative Teaching Rm 112 **4:00pm PUENTE THEATRE "Storytelling Our Lives"** ***hosted by VIPIRG and the UVic Theatre Department and Phoenix Theatre*** at Phoenix Theatres **(seating limited)**	**7:30pm "BEHIND THE LABEL"** Performances including **SWEATSHOP FASHION SHOW & PLAY: CHILD AND SWEAT** ***Hosted by the World University Service of Canada*** **Admission $5.00** Grad lounge	**12:00-3pm 2nd Annual March & Rally Against Racism** Downtown Victoria **March from Centennial Square to the Legislature to rally**

For up-to-date event information during the week of March 15 to 21 contact the Women's Centre at 721-8353

Calendar produced with support from Equity Issues, UVic Orientation, The Martlet, University of Victoria Students' Society, VIPIRG, Women's Centre

Cash Corner labours for funding

by Pam Graham

Like everything in B.C. these days, Cash Corner, a new labour pool offered to anyone who needs a little extra to help get by, is having trouble getting on its feet.

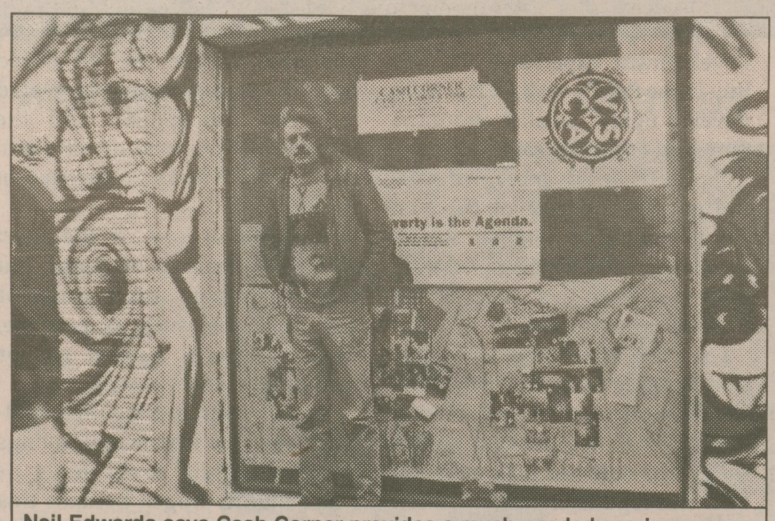
The Cash Corner Labour Pool, headed by Neil Edwards, was formed on Feb. 8 to help people find work on a casual basis. To date, the program has connected more than 10 people with a day's labour. And unlike other government-funded programs in Victoria like Cool Aid, which only provides labour options for people who are already on income assistance, Cash Corner's service is available to anyone in need.

Cool Aid provides people with casual work on a daily basis, but its service is already over-used. The agency has many more clients than it does employers.

Edwards made a presentation last week to city council to inquire about funding for Cash Corner, which could expand the resources available for Victoria clients.

"We are waiting for an application for funding from the Ministry of Human Resources," said Edwards. "We do need outside funding to get [the labour pool] off the ground."

One goal of the Labour Pool is to be able to run the program without outside funding by asking for a $10 donation for each work-order that is filled. Cash Corner also received a small grant from Peers Helping Peers which was used to set up a phone line.



Neil Edwards says Cash Corner provides a much-needed service.
Martlet photo by Pam Graham

"Our dreams include installing a fax and computer," said Edwards. "Right now we don't even have ink for the photocopier." Office space for the program was donated by The Victoria Street Community Association.

Cash Corner will focus their attention on attracting labour jobs from home owners.

"These are tough economic times, and home owners are often putting off projects around the house because they can't afford it," said Edwards. "This way they can get the project finished [at a more affordable rate]."

Cash Corner differs from other casual labour programs because it does not require people to take a three-month employment class before being placed with an employer. "They often still don't get work, and many people don't want to wait three months for work," said Edwards.

Edwards blames the GAIN Act for a large part of the poverty in Victoria.

"The GAIN Act allows those receiving benefits only $500 a month that is split up into $325 for rent and $175 to live," said Edwards. "Any extra earning is deducted dollar for dollar from their $500 max. It is physically impossible, legally, to save enough money for telephone, insurance or a vehicle. This is way below the poverty line."

Edwards says the GAIN Act needs to be changed to help people become self-employed. "Unless people can get over $500 a month they get no where."

He says that home owners may be forced to pay people indirectly in order to prevent being penalized.

"Sometimes it is turning into a trade and barter system," he said. "If people were allowed to earn more than their welfare cheque they would be happy to pay taxes on it."

Edwards says he has approached as many as 130 businesses, but they're reluctant to offer employment or donations because Cash Corner doesn't have charitable status so contributions cannot be written off for tax deductions.

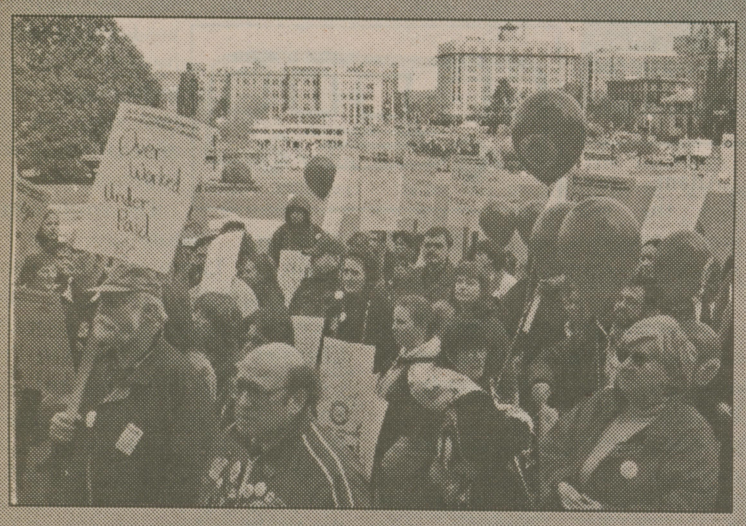
Edwards started Cash Corner because he said he ran into too many people who miss the old Temporary Manpower Office where they used to be able to get work. He's appealing to the public to use the important service.

"People resort to crime and prostitution as a means of survival," said Edwards. "If a street kid walks in it's better to get him work than have him out shoplifting."

Edwards hopes he's planting a seed with Cash Corner and wants other people across Canada to follow suit.

"We have to apply pressure on the Government to change the GAIN Act," said Edwards. "It has to be done across Canada. A hand out is great, but people prefer a hand up."

Cash Corner is open from 7am to noon, Monday through Friday, Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon, and is located at 1517 Quadra Street beside the welfare office. Donations can be made by cheque or money order to the Arbutus Association or Cash Corner at Quadra street address.



Martlet photo by Anna Roik

Ten thousand social services workers across B.C. rallied in a province-wide strike. Issues included wage parity with workers in institutions and benefits. Members of three different unions were represented in the Victoria protest.

Hemp's not just for tokin'

by Angelica Montgomery

Some say what's from the earth is of the greatest worth, and that could mean a lot of things: gold, oil, water, wood...hemp.

Many people feel strongly about the worth of this last item. Both curious and politically-active students have the opportunity to learn about the merits of hemp at the Cinecenta Wednesday, March 17 at the Cannabis Convention, which is organized by Victoria's Hempology 101 Society.

"There are doctors out there who believe that marijuana is many times more effective than prescription drugs," said Ted Smith, a convention organizer and member of Hempology 101. One goal of the convention is to educate people about the alternative, medical purposes of the plant.

Hempology 101 has assembled a diverse selection of nine speakers for the convention, including Professor Jim Hackler from UVic's sociology department, and Hillary Black, the founder of Vancouver's Compassion Club, an organization that openly distributes marijuana to people who need it for medical purposes.

Another speaker is Chris Bennet, author of *Green Gold, The Tree of Life* , a book that outlines what he calls marijuana's magical, religious and cultural role in world history.

The convention will include an exposition of various hemp products. Hempology 101 will also present their arguments against marijuana prohibition.

While Smith educates the public on alternative uses of hemp and marijuana through the Hempology 101 Society, he also operates the Cannabis Buyers Club out of his home in Victoria. For the past three years the club has provided the incurably ill with a safe, public location to purchase marijuana.

Alternative crusaders for hemp are starting to gain some ground in the mainstream. Health Minister Allan Rock announced on March 3 that the government will begin clinical trials to develop evidence supporting the medical effectiveness of marijuana.

Smith views the announcement as an endorsement of the Cannabis Buyers Club.

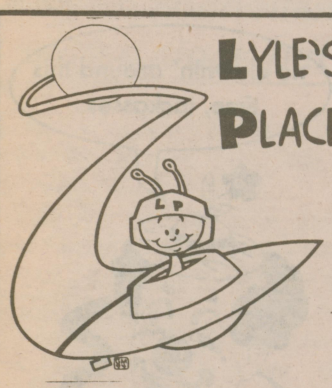
"[In other clinical tests] they've tested to prove the negative effects of marijuana. I know [marijuana] is beneficial, so I know it's going to pass their tests," he said.

Still, opposition towards legalization and the practical use of marijuana and hemp abounds on campus.

Michael, a UVic English student who did not want his last name used, is skeptical that the political push for the legalization of hemp and medicinal marijuana is a tactic to legalize marijuana for recreational uses.

"It's too bad that so many people advocating the good purposes have selfish motives," he said.

The Cannabis Convention takes place in the SUB on March 17 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Information on the Hempology 101 Society and the Cannabis Buyers Club is available at 381-3262.



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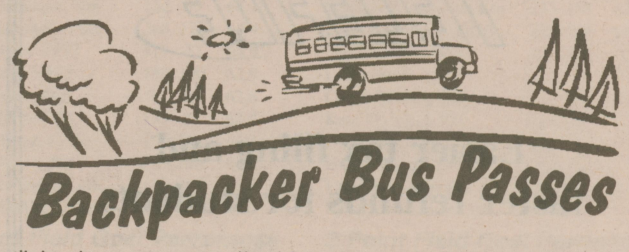

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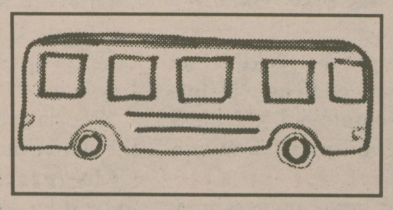
GREEN MACHINES HIT THE SCENE

by Chris Pritchard

A high-tech company that started a decade ago in a North Vancouver garage is now leading the global race to develop a zero-emission vehicle while providing B.C. Transit with a new environmentally friendly option.

Last October, Ballard Power Systems of Burnaby supplied B.C. Transit with three new buses, each powered by a revolutionary hydrogen fuel cell–a power unit that emits only water vapour and heat. B.C. Transit is helping them perfect the new engine technology.



"The feedback we're getting from our drivers and passengers is very good," said Paul Clarke, spokesperson for B.C. Transit in Vancouver. "Our drivers are saying the buses are quiet and comfortable to drive and have good acceleration, comparable to our electric trolley buses."

B.C. Transit and Chicago Transit Authority are the first transit companies in the world to use hydrogen fuel to power buses in a real-world test environment.

Five months ago the two-year testing period began on the three new buses.

Debby Roman, spokesperson for Ballard Power Systems, has been equally pleased with the feedback she's received from B.C. Transit.

"The feedback we're getting is extremely good," said Roman. "Everything we're learning is going into commercial applications, both in bus design and in automotive applications. There's nothing like a real-life operation to provide that kind of information as opposed to being on a test bed."

According to Clarke, there's much less vibration and noise with the electric motor.

"And the only thing that's coming out of the exhaust pipe is water," said Clarke.

The Ballard fuel cell uses an electro-chemical process to make hydrogen give off electricity as it turns into water. Unlike conventional engines that use combustion as the means of generating power, fuel cells are clean. The fuel cells give off heat and water vapour whereas other engines tend to emit nasty pollutants into the environment.

Chris Foord, Marketing VP for B.C. Transit in Victoria, remembers the success the Ballard fuel cell-powered bus had in Victoria during the 1994 Commonwealth Games.

"We used the first prototype bus as a media shuttle and ran it much harder than Ballard thought we would, and it ran flawlessly throughout the Games. We were all quite impressed."

Also impressed by the project are Ballard's partners–automobile manufacturers Daimler-Benz of Germany and Ford Motor Company of the U.S. In the last two years they've committed to spending more than $1.2 billion on developing the hydrogen fuel cell in passenger cars and now own a 20 and 15 per cent share in Ballard respectively.

Ballard has now signed deals with Chrysler, General Motors, Honda, Mazda, Volkswagen, Volvo, GEC Alsthom of the Netherlands, Hitachi and Matsushita Electric Works to develop zero-emission engines and stationary power supply units and is also developing applications for submarines.

According to Roman, their company has grown very quickly.

"This is a very exciting time for us," she said. "Both our partners, Daimler-Benz and Ford, say they'll be coming out with commercial vehicles for the 2004 model year powered by the Ballard fuel cell."

Ballard is using the research and development experience it's getting in the field with B.C. Transit to develop lighter, smaller and more powerful fuel cells, said Roman.

"From these advances, we have started development of the first commercial bus engine, which should be ready for demonstration purposes later this year or the beginning of next year."

The push to develop zero-emission vehicles came in 1990, when California passed a law stating that by 1998, two per cent of cars sold in the state had to be emission free. This regulation has since been extended into the new millennium, but the initiative served to get auto manufacturers planning alternatives to the combustion engine.

All there is to inhale when following a hydrogen-powered bus is water vapour. Martlet photo by Peter Booth

Hydrogen fuel cell technology has been around for more than 150 years, but its only within the last decade that car manufacturers, under increasing pressure to curb their vehicles' carbon dioxide emissions, have begun to apply the technology to the huge passenger car market.

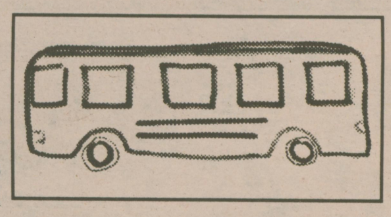
The key to the success of hydrogen-powered vehicles is finding environmentally responsible and efficient ways of producing hydrogen gas.

The hydrogen fueling the three B.C. Transit buses is extracted from city water using off-peak power from B.C. Hydro in a refueling station at the Port Coquitlam bus depot. Through a process called 'water electrolysis,' hydrogen and oxygen are separated from the water, oxygen is vented into the atmosphere, and the hydrogen is pumped directly into the overhead tanks on the roof of the bus.

Hydrogen is one of the most abundant elements on Earth, but isolating it from either water or any fossil fuel such as gasoline, diesel, propane, natural gas or methanol requires energy.

"At this point in time there really isn't any environmental savings in transforming fossil fuels or water into hydrogen because this process takes energy as well," said Larrie Adam, senior advisor of transportation policy at the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks in Sidney.

"If we had some way of producing hydrogen from a truly renewable source we wouldn't have to rely on external power from hydroelectric or coal-fire power-plants."



Adam says that the real way to get clean energy is through sun, wind, wave and falling water.

"Solar energy is environmentally safe but we haven't found a way of storing it yet so that the power can be used 24 hours a day."

Walter Mèrida, program coordinator of Fuel Cell Systems at UVic's Institute for Integrated Energy Systems (IESVic), says resources are only renewable until human demands exceed the rate at which they can be renewed.

"Renewable sources are necessary but not enough. What we need is sustainable energy systems."

IESVic has been working on fuel cell technology since 1989 and is now working on transportation applications of the "Next Generation Fuel Cell", focusing on changes to current fuel cell designs, materials and their manufacturing techniques.

"The current barriers are not technological but rather economical in nature," says Mèrida, who cites high costs and the lack of a widespread refuelling network for non-conventional fuels such as pure hydrogen or methanol as obstacles.

Fuel cell technology is one of three alternative power sources seen as likely replacements to the combustion engine–battery and hybrid vehicles being the other two.

Hybrid vehicles use a combination of small combustion engine, generator and battery system. In driving situations that require little energy, like most city driving, power would come from the battery. When extra power is needed, the engine kicks in to provide what the battery system can't.

"Fuel efficiency would probably be in the neighbourhood of 80 mpg for a hybrid vehicle," said Adam. "But we'd still be relying on fossil fuels to power the engine."

If the interest in Ballard Power Systems from the world's auto makers is any indication of which way the industry is leaning, then hydrogen fuel cell technology could one day be the alternative power source of choice.

The world's first planetary laboratory for a Hydrogen Economy was created in Reykjavik, Iceland in mid-February of this year. Daimler-Chrysler (a member of the Fuel Cell Alliance with Ballard and Ford), Shell and Iceland's hydro utility in co-operation with the Icelandic government formed a company that will be investigating the likelihood of replacing all fossil fuels in Iceland with hydrogen.

If progress on the cell continues, the world's transportation industry can look forward to projects such as full hydrogen-powered bus service starting as soon as next year.

Graphics by Holland Gidney

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APEC protesters may have to cover Ottawa's legal tab

by Alex Bustos
Ottawa Bureau Chief

VANCOUVER (CUP)—A complainant at the APEC inquiry who wants Ottawa to release confidential documents may end up having to pay the government's legal bill after he asked it to cover the cost of his federal court application.

Last month, Ottawa finally agreed to cover the legal expenses of students before the RCMP Public Complaints Commission, which is investigating police actions at the 1997 APEC summit.

But the federal Liberals refused to foot the bill incurred by APEC protester Jonathan Oppenheim in his application to a federal court to force the release of e-mail messages relating to the meeting of 18 Pacific Rim leaders.

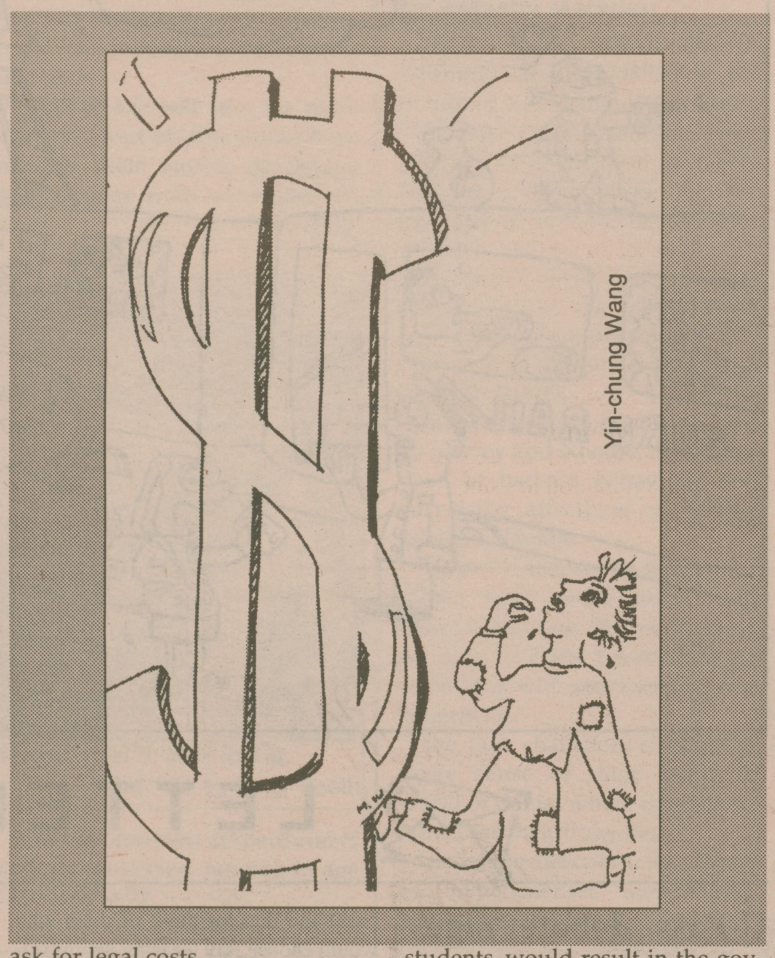
The post-graduate University of British Columbia student filed the application after RCMP and government officials filed five certificates of exemption preventing the release of the messages last October.

When the original three-member APEC panel resigned late last year his application became null and void, forcing Oppenheim to seek another court ruling to force Ottawa's hand.

But he says when he requested federal money to cover his legal costs he was both denied funding and told he might have to pay government lawyers.

"You suggested that costs should be awarded in respect of your previous application," wrote government lawyer Ivan Whitehall in a letter received by Oppenheim on Feb. 25. "In case you are not aware of it, I thought it would be appropriate to bring to your attention Rule 402."

Rule 402 states that if someone abandons a federal court motion, then the other party is entitled to ask for legal costs.



In an interview, Oppenheim said the letter amounted to a thinly veiled threat.

But according to government lawyer Simon Fothergill, the charge of federal bullying is pure hyperbole.

"[Oppenheim] is overstating the legal consequences massively," said Fothergill. "Whitehall was just pointing out a technicality."

Fothergill was adamant Ottawa wasn't seeking money from any APEC protester, and rejected the charge that the letter was written to discourage future court action.

Fothergill said only an exceptional situation– such as an abuse of legal procedures by students–would result in the government being granted legal costs.

Meanwhile, APEC inquiry head Ted Hughes ruled Friday that Ottawa should cover the legal costs incurred by Oppenheim in his application before the federal court.

"It is my belief . . . that, given the circumstances under which the current motion has arisen, it is equally plausible to arrive at a conclusion opposite to that of Mr. Whitehall," he wrote.

Oppenheim said he was pleased with the ruling.

"In some sense, it's a polite way of reprimanding the government. [Hughes has] given them a way to save face," he said.

Students challenge federal bankruptcy legislation

by Alex Bustos
Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP)—A recent university graduate and a national student lobby group will ask the courts to strike down recent changes to the federal Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act on the grounds they discriminate against college and university students.

Annick Chenier and the Canadian Federation of Students argue the changes, introduced last year, violate the Charter of Rights and Freedoms by preventing graduates from discharging their student loans in the event of personal bankruptcy until 10 years after leaving school.

In contrast, someone with a commercial loan can be discharged of their bankruptcy after only nine months. Chenier, who graduated with a master's degree in pastoral counselling in 1997 from St. Paul's University, is saddled with $52,000 in debt incurred over nine years of study. She says her high loan repayment rate of $631 a month, or roughly 34 per cent of her monthly income, prompted her to declare bankruptcy.

"The federal government is forcing me into a state of poverty for the next 10 years," Chenier, 29, said at a news conference Tuesday.

In nine months, Chenier will ask bankruptcy court to discharge her of her bankruptcy and student debt, said Todd Burke, the lawyer representing Chenier and the CFS.

Burke argues the changes to the act have created an artificial distinction between student and commercial debt.

"This section of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act on its face discriminates against students as a class of individuals," said Burke. "[We] will argue that there is no reasonable justification for such discrimination, and that student debt should be treated in the same manner as any other form of debt."

"The federal government is forcing me into a state of poverty for the next 10 years."

Burke said he plans to argue that treating student debt and commercial debt differently violates the equality provisions in the Charter.

Elizabeth Carlyle, CFS national chairperson, said the case should be seen as an attempt to tackle the problem of student debt.

"The question is not: How can we make loan repayment easier?" said Carlyle. "The question should be: How can we make loan repayment avoidable? And how can we make a system so people do not have to incur huge debt loads?"

The average student debt load for a four-year undergraduate degree in Canada is $25,000. In the 1996-1997 fiscal year, 10,000 students declared bankruptcy.

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EDITORIAL

Don't settle for Crap 101

What would you say if you bought a defective product, went to return it and were refused a full refund? Few companies would survive by practicing business this way.

Sometimes we forget that UVic is in fact a business, and it should be accountable for delivering what it promises.

Here's a mess:

A little birdie has told us down here at *the Martlet* that two of her courses were short of what she expected for her $700-plus that she dished out to the university last year.

One professor, who was away 50 per cent of the term because he had better things to do than teach, was replaced by a less-experienced TA. The class also had to deal with an engineering professor who for a week-long visit tried to teach them formulae that had no relevance at all to their course.

The other professor (nicknamed Professor Slacker by birdie) among other failures wasn't even around during his office hours.

So birdie had a meeting with the School of Music chair about Professor Slacker. The chair shared with her a complaint written by another student with the same concerns.

Our little birdie took her concerns through the channels all the way up to UVic's vice president academic Dr. Penny Codding, who called an in-camera meeting with the department chair and the associate dean of fine arts that even a birdie couldn't sneak into.

The result was a finely crafted letter from Codding to birdie, stating that birdie's issues were not grounds for a refund—and since the credits were already awarded and the cheque cashed, nothing could be done. Birdie would have been happy to turn in her credits, but still no go.

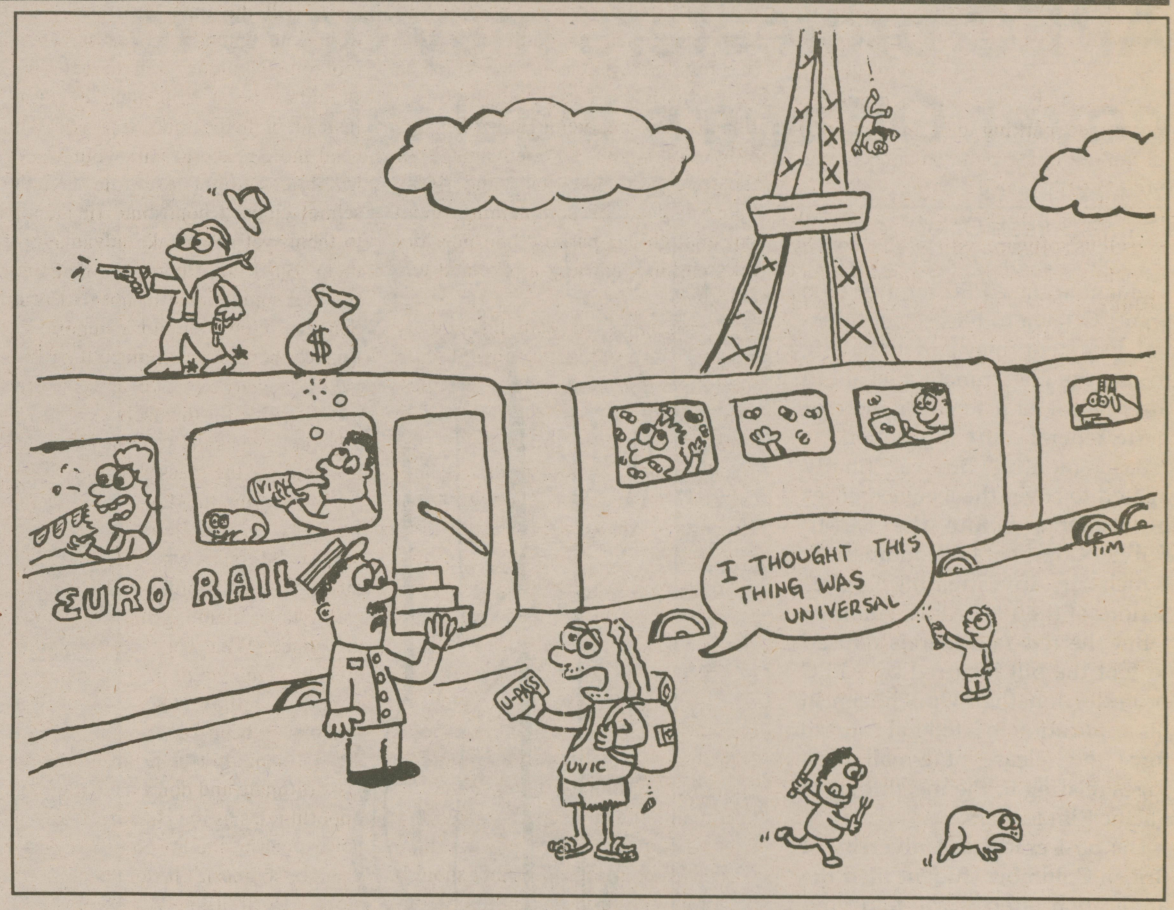
So what *are* grounds for a refund? A professor teaching how to conduct a lobotomy in a child and youth care class? Sending the family dog in to cover for them for a month while they're off in Cuba sucking on fat cigars?

Listen up, administration—we're not here for mere credits and A's. We're here to learn, and we expect a bang for our buck, dammit.

Birdie would like to see some sort of system where students who have salient reasons can get refunds, and in this way maybe those profs who don't really give a shit will feel compelled to get their asses in gear.

Because if you walk out of Home Hardware with a drill that don't drill, Home's not going to tell you, "Uh, your complaints aren't valid, honey—you're screwed."

Editorial topics are decided upon by staff at editorial meetings and are written by one or more staff members. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of all staff.



LETTERS

U-Pass debate rages on (and on...)

Editors,

This is my story of a life in the day of the non-delegates at UVic. First of all, it seems unlike some campaign strategies, most of us seem to have managed to retain the notion of living in a democracy and so, maintaining our respect for the freedom of choice. I think I'm speaking for most of the students here who would like to be given the credit of choosing their own way to fight air pollution or pollution in general. Unlike the YES! campaign reps, I have not, to the best of my knowledge and despite my personal choice, invented a bill for charging people an extra $40+ per semester for not wearing cotton to school even though for myself, I think it's the most environmentally friendly thing to do. I guess IF I was following the campaign strats of the VOTE YES folks, I would make sure that while trying to force this mandate on my fellow students, I would rally for their support by neglecting to say ANYWHERE ON THE POSTER that they will be punished for not wearing cotton BY HAVING TO PAY each semester. That the wearing of cotton will be MANDATORY (just like this bus pass) and that for those of them who would choose, say wearing hemp (riding a bike) as their natural fibre, they will be penalized anyways, regardless of whether their choice is actually more environmentally friendly than mine or NOT! Sounds pretty fascist, don't you think? Maybe, if I had the same personal agenda of the VOTE YES! people, I'd even be doing the whole propaganda bit so I could get a really good deal on cotton and because most of my fellow cotton-wearers would benefit from it as well.

I believe it was a cable company that once imposed the same strategy by introducing four new channels into their circuit and AUTOMATICALLY billing people for them (negative billing, I think it's called) whether they wanted them or not; the result was similar to a small-scale rebellion. The bus is not a service that should be treated as intrinsic to university survival...one survey has cited that most people live within a 15min bike/ 30 min walking range from the university. If the VOTE YES delegates were actually going for reducing AIR POLLUTION, they might consider making both walking and biking routes more accessible and off-road. The bus pass is merely THEIR EXCLUSIVE decision enforcement on how you and I should play our environmentally friendly part. So if you walk to school, recycle, keep a compost, buy local produce: FORGET IT - you're not a REAL environmentalist until you're paying for the VOTE YES party to ride the bus cheaper to school! If the bill goes through, I urge all other bike riders/walkers/car poolers/free-will supporters to join me in a large scale demonstration against this kind of mutated militant hypocrisy.

—Randy Williams

Editors,

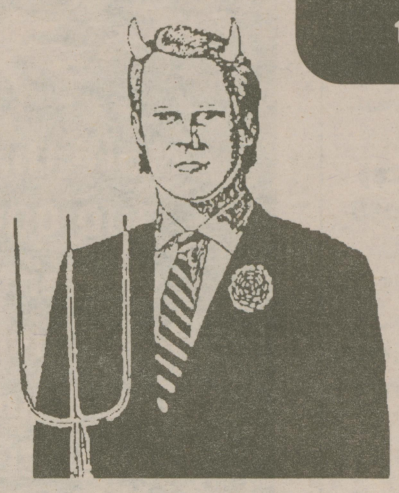
I am writing in response to the article "Victoria Students to Vote on the Pass," in the February 25 edition of The Martlet. The article mistakenly claims that students will benefit the most from the new U-Pass system.

This January, 1,200 four-month passes were sold to UVIC students at a cost of $138 each. This way, B.C. Transit receives only $312,000 a year from our students. Under the U-Pass, $88 a year, from all 13,744 full-time students means B.C. Transit stands to collect $1.2 million. So, $900,000 more will be pulled from UVIC student pockets, quadrupling the current income B.C. Transit receives from us. In return, students get a free ride to the ferry on Friday's.

continued on next page

The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavor to print every letter received from members of the university community, with priority to undergraduate students. Letters must be TYPEWRITTEN, submitted on disk or e-mailed and include your name and phone number for verification. LETTERS MUST BE 200 WORDS MAXIMUM. Letters will be reviewed for libel at *the Martlet* editorial meeting on the week of publication. Deadline for letters is Friday noon before publication date. Letters will be prioritized by the order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed. Letters will not be edited for spelling or grammar. Letters may be mailed to Box 3035, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, V8W 3P3, dropped off at SUB B011 or emailed to martlet@uvic.ca

well wouldn't you know it. the Martlet is HIRING.



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continued from previous page

Some students try to save money by cycling to school. Students with cars pay hundreds of dollars a month for insurance, parking, gas, and repairs. It is not fair to ask these students to contribute $132 a year to transit users.

Students would not allow Microsoft to sell us software with tuition, so why should we allow it for transportation? Tuition paid to the university should strictly be used for the University's costs. Without this protection, student pockets have a lot to lose.

—Charles Cornell

Sherman raises the ire

Editors,

I am writing in response to the letter from W. Scott Sherman which appeared March 4, in which arguments are voice against both covered bicycle parking and the U-pass. Sherman does not like paying for services he does not utlise. For Sherman, only driving a car is "practicle". Perhaps he is unaware that those of who do not drive pay for his unclean habit with their health and increased social spending.

Bike parking covers are a visible addition to the school which shows support for socially responsible transportation. Sherman is upset that he has been forced to contribute a few cents to this project. Yet it stands to persuade people to ride their bikes and eliminate, over the long term, untold tons of toxic emissions.

Sherman's letter goes on to claim that the service provided to those who utilise the U-pass is "absolutely useless" to him. Oddly enough, he had already complained about the difficulty of finding parking spots at school. Further, does he not value cleaner air for himself and others, fewer potential accidents on ring road, and the luxury of falling back on the bus system in times of needs or moods (should they ever strike him) of environmental responsibility? It is clear that Sherman's concept of practicality involves self interest and the externalisation of costs. Yet he rails against the "many paying for the needs of the few"! I'm not the only one tired of breathing your exhaust, Sherman. You're spewing more than propaganda.

—Tim Harvey

Editors,

I am astonished at the selfish attitude of a student who wrote to complain his tuition money was being allocated improperly. He's complaining about the new covered bike parking. He feels it's not his responsibility as a student at UVic to have his fees put towards helping others. Further, he writes he is "pissed off" that he pays $120 a year for car parking and that sometimes he can't even find parking. In the sarcastic tone which he wrote his letter, I can't help but continue in the same vein: Hello? Buddy? Why don't you take advantage of those covered bike stalls and ride a bike? Instead of complaining about not enough car parking and new dry bike parking, and use a bike and win both ways.

He continues on with his rant by saying it's not his responsibility to fund covered parking for bicycles. "This is bullshit" he writes. You know what's bullshit, is this tactless and greedy student's perception of how UVic should be run. Do you think that the money we pay for tuition and other fees go directly to us? For example, if I, Paul Laronde, don't read the Martlet one week, should I be financially compensated for the money I pay that goes towards funding the Martlet. And if I don't use any of the computing service I shouldn't have to contribute to help those without a computer at home? Think about it. We're all in this together. Just because I don't drive a 1979 powder blue Chevy Malibu, doesn't mean I shouldn't be interested in the "group of students who park at UVic."

What about when they built parking lot 10 behind the Fine Arts department? All the time and money that went into something I've never set foot on, let alone plan to ever use, shouldn't be a grievance of mine. Instead, it helps folks like you who need more space to park your Chevy Malibu. Another example are the school clubs. I contribute financially to them, yet never take advantage of them. But I don't complain that I am funding something I'm not part of or that the clubs should categorically finance their own activities. It's a collective society we live at UVic. It's not everyone for themselves.

He concludes his scribble by saying it's time for the masses to stop financially helping the few. Holy Crap!! This guy belongs in a ten in the outbacks of Montana with a bazooka calling his friends Timothy and Ted on his walky-talks planning his next bombing attack. What sort of society does this guy think we're in? One name for it is the welfare state. Just because I've never been on the dole doesn't mean I shouldn't help those who are less fortunate and don't have the same opportunities as me. Just because I've never been in the hospital in a dozen years or so doesn't mean that I should stop contributing to health care through my taxes. Instead I'm contributing to your medical care when you smash your Chevy Malibu into a school bus while driving following an afternoon, alone, watching the Rosie O'Donnal Show with a half-bottle of Wild Turkey.

—Paul Laronde

Way to vote, goats

Editors,

On behalf of the current Board of Directors of the University of Victoria Students' Society, I would like to heap praise on the students of UVic for making a point of voting this year and breaking the so-called reign of apathy. You the student voted in greater numbers and percentages this year than in annual elections in the previous two decades. A 32% turnout, though not a majority, manages to surpass U.S. Congressional elections and most BC municipalities. All during a week that featured Victoria's first transit strike since 1984, gale force winds and heavy rain.

Special thanks go to those who offered rides in the Ride Share program, those who spontaneously gave rides to and from campus to their fellow students, and the Bus Drivers Union (CAW local 333) for using their own private vehicles to give students lifts to campus.

—Chris Moon
UVSS Director of Services

Student Voice

If courses were limbs...

UVic's Theatre Department lost a part of itself last Wednesday when the University Senate voted to officially remove the Theatre in Education/Drama in Education (TIE/DIE) option from the university calendar. We have been a leader in this field for two decades, and the loss of this program is a loss to us all.

We were one of the only universities in the country to offer a truly comprehensive theatre education. But over the past five years we have systematically lost teachers, then courses, and now entire degree options. The Dean of Fine Arts himself calls it "a situation where we had to decide which limb to sever." History prof John Money said that the department, the faculty, and now the Senate were presented with "a Hobsons choice, which really isn't a choice at all."

This way of dealing with an ongoing funding crisis by severing limbs one by one cannot, and must not, continue. UVic's theatre program may continue to stand tall, but what will it do when no limbs are left?

The real tragedy here isn't the loss of four courses in a program that most UVic students barely know about. The tragedy is the precedent we're setting by systematically deconstructing the very programs that made UVic what it is today. If TIE/DIE is redundant today, what will be next? The chronic underfunding of education crosses all academic fields and divisions.

The Senate can't force the government to give us more money. But it can, and should, take a hard look at program quality before making such sweeping decisions. Arbitrary prunings must be replaced by thoughtful reconsideration of courses and objectives. If there isn't going to be more money, we must learn to do fewer things better, not just do fewer things.

We must make sure that these reviews are actually consultative and truly have the interests and concerns of students at heart. It is no longer acceptable to run academic units through rumour and hearsay. It is no longer acceptable to distribute secret planning documents to faculty members and exclude legitimate student associations and voting student members of faculty council. It is no longer acceptable to arbitrarily sever programs while students are still completing them.

The process to date, and the senior administrators who ran it, has failed us. More and more power has been concentrated in the hands of a few key individuals who decide the fate of our academic programs and how they are funded. Today, they failed the Department of Theatre. Tomorrow, it may be your degree option.

The student movement has campaigned in recent years for equal access to education. But what use is an education if it isn't worth taking? If we don't take a stand for program quality, we'll continue to see our program options cut, the lucrative ones picked up by the private sector. Then we truly will have a two-tiered system. Will we have been the cause?

—John Trueman

John Trueman is the student senator representing the faculty of fine arts.

Got something on your mind? Student Voice is a venue for students and other members of the campus community to air their indvidual opinions. Submissions must be in before Monday at noon, and are voted or vetoed by staff at Monday editorial meetings.

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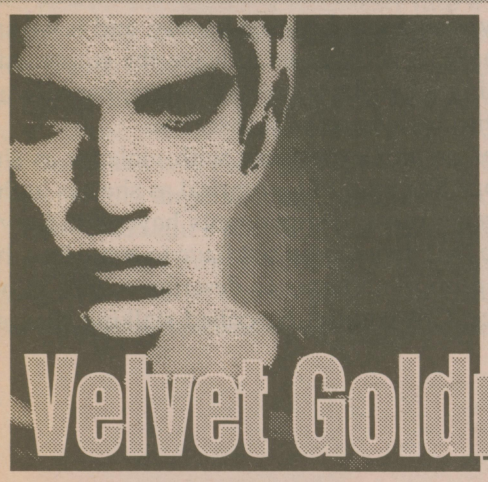

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FALLEN ANGELS

the Martlet
51 years of

laughing at the clowns

Quote of the Week:

"It's like the government's the pimp, Victoria's the prostitute, and the sailors are the infection."

—Student Tim Sedo on the impending arrival of the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln

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The Martlet
P.O. Box 3035
University of Victoria
Victoria, BC V8W 3P3

Newsroom 721-8360
Editors 721-8361
Advertising 721-8359
Fax 472-4556
Email martlet@uvic.ca
kafka.uvic.ca/~martlet

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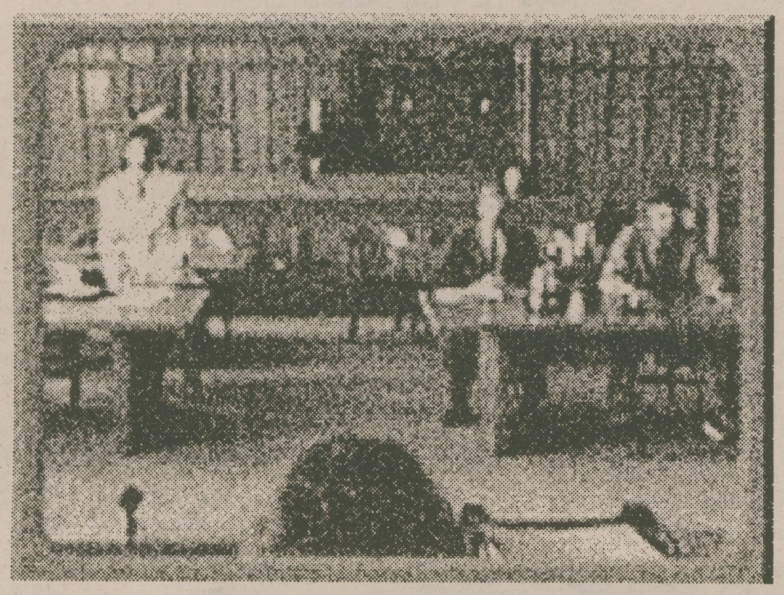
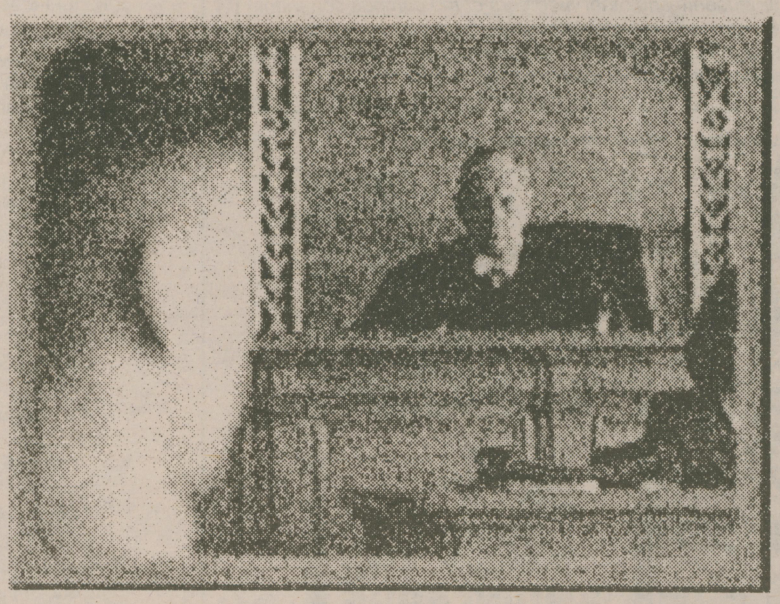
Judging the Ju

Natasha Marsden explores gender bias in



"We write notes on the case, listen for examples of gender bias and monitor the behaviour of the courtroom players: the witnesses, counsel and judge."



Her ex-husband is crying, wiping tears onto his best sweater, and sitting less than 10 feet away from her. Crown counsel, her legal representative, chats casually with the ex-husband's lawyer. The Crown counsel scans a photograph of the woman and openly criticizes the officer for not showing off the lump she had on her head. She had the courage to bring this case to the Victoria courthouse, yet now she sits in the corner, shrinking between the benches.

I am a volunteer, someone to stand in her corner and support her through this experience.

Along with over a dozen other women from the Court Monitoring Program (CMP), I observe cases of violence against women and children. Our first priority is to support the person who has laid the charges, the complainant. Many times, female complainants are alone in the courtroom with the accused and legal professionals. Our presence, as feminists asking for change, may give her more confidence to stand up to a legal system that was created by men. If she is uncomfortable with us there, we respect her wishes and leave the courtroom.

Most of the time, I sit behind the women so that they have the opportunity to ask me what I am doing in the courtroom. If they are curious about who I am, then I am eager to tell them why I am there.

As court monitors, we write notes on the case, listen for examples of gender bias and monitor the behaviour of the courtroom players: the witnesses, counsel and judge. We hope that our presence reminds those who work in the courtroom to treat women and children with respect, to provide them with an equal opportunity to receive a fair trial.

It seems that the system has been built against them. Despite modern technologies, women are still face-to-face with their perpetrators. They wait in the same hallways over breaks. During testimony, the complainant is often positioned to look directly at the accused. Defense lawyers are allowed to nitpick about the details of the case, which can wear a witness down. If the accused is convicted, counsel often suggests how sentencing will damage his future.

The CMP was started in 1992 by the Victoria Status of Women's Action Group (SWAG). The program was born in part as a response to the lenient sentencing of a convicted sexual abuser in Vancouver, in which the judge claimed a three-year-old victim was sexually aggressive. Enraged, the women's group started court monitoring to address the biases present in the Canadian legal system and provide unconditional support for women during criminal proceedings. The service is provided in Victoria and other areas, if requested.

"Our first goal is to act in solidarity with the complainants," said SWAG interim coordinator, Candace McKivett. "And if the monitors find something disturbing, we'll take action."

The CMP passes down the knowledge and experience through a mentoring program, where experienced monitors show new volunteers the ropes. Sharon Johnny, a mentor, acts as a "mother hen," coming to the courthouse several times a week with new volunteers. At first, volunteers acquaint themselves with the layout of the courthouse. From there, they learn what to look and listen for inside the courtroom.

"The only way to educate is to get people into the courtroom. That's when things change," said Johnny.

No matter how prepared we are, there is always the opportunity for a situation to arise which we have never encountered before. That's when our pens are ready to write. Today, the Crown counsel fires questions at his own witness. She speaks slowly, and we're not sure if she understands everything she is being asked because English is not her first language. (Take notes.) When she is cross-examined, the defense counsel accuses her of beating her ex-husband. He implies that her injury was received during an act of self-defense. (More notes.) Her testimony is inconsistent with police reports, and it often contradicts her ex-husband's. Most of the day is spent determining whether or not the two were watching television before the incident happened. It is confusing and, at times, hard to believe her. But I am not there to weigh how truthful her testimony is. That is the judge's decision.

It is not our position to judge any woman by her past history, and if we are unable to support her unconditionally, it is up to us to leave the courtroom. When I have problems understanding what she is going through, I stay. I can face my ignorance later and deal with her obstacles at that time.

The victim is already reliving her painful experience with violence as she tells the court her version of the story. She might fear reprisal as she sits in the same room as the accused. In extreme cases, complainants have withdrawn from testifying at their own trials so that they would not have to come into the courtroom. Lawyers might use inappropriate terms to describe events, minimizing the impact of her experience. One counsel described stalking charges

dgments

ictoria's courthouses

as "a simple case of Romeo and Juliet, only Juliet wasn't listening."

Janet Bavelas, a UVic psychology professor, addresses issues of violence in her work with the Language and Sexual Assault Research Group. The group has researched systematic gender biases within the media, courts and academic journals. Bavelas has examined how language creates a specific, sometimes misleading, version of reality. Her research shows that often terms are used by the witnesses, counsel and judges in the courtroom that minimize the violent nature of the crime.

"We don't want to look at the perpetrator's motivation to define the activity," said Bavelas. "This revictimizes survivors by imposing a version which hides and conceals. Their actual experience is silenced."

Several articles Bavelas and her colleagues have written are included in the CMP's manual as an academic resource for the monitors. As a follow-up to the group's research, several members have held workshops with community workers handling issues of violence against women, including those who work directly with the survivors of abuse.

As SWAG volunteers, we are contributing to a research project of our own. After every case, we record the case's vital points and any incidents of discrimination on a court form. This information is entered into a database and is currently being used for a research project on criminal harassment. But this project has been difficult to complete because of the changing volunteer base and a lack of funding. In 1994, Status of Women Canada agreed to fill half of SWAG's funding request for the program on condition that they fill the gap with community donations. After lobbying local legal and governmental organizations, they were unable to find additional financial support. In turn, SWAG has operated the program on a tight budget with most of the funds paying for the part-time coordinator.

Women's centres have been dealing with financial constraints since the early 1990s when many groups began to lose core funding due to government cutbacks. McKivett feels the squeeze has strengthened the heart of the organization, with the support of dedicated volunteers.

"The more you get to know women's organizations, the more you see how committed we are to do the working," she said. "We find ways and means."

Although SWAG has been granted supplemental funding from the Status of Women Canada, the money will only be enough to pay for essential materials and a part-time coordinator for four months when it comes through. Volunteers have agreed to provide support services for the community on an on-going basis, regardless of when the information is compiled. With this commitment, the program responds to individual requests and other cases which SWAG has determined to be a priority.

"It's good that people are calling, it means we're getting a reputation and being heard," said Sharon Johnny, SWAG volunteer.

Keeping volunteers can be difficult. Women have other commitments, from university classes to raising families, and scheduling a day away from other responsibilities does not guarantee a productive day in the courtroom. The legal process is inherently slow and can lead to frustration. The court monitors' golden rule, according to Johnny, is to only put one quarter in the meter until we're sure a case is proceeding.

"We could have people here five days a week, but cases get adjourned or delayed," said Johnny.

SWAG's volunteer sources took a hit when their partnership program with UVic's Women's Studies 301 class disbanded, due to the restraints of student scheduling and the burden on SWAG administration.

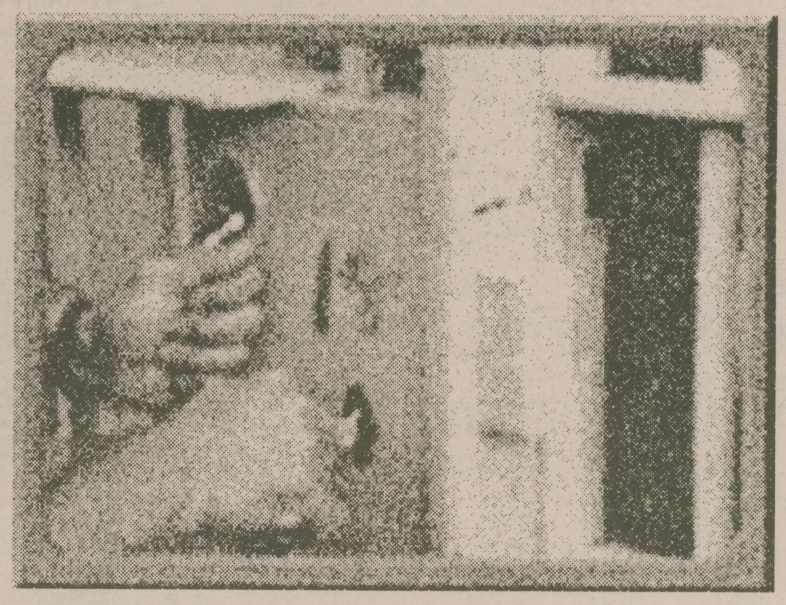
SWAG's volunteer coordinators are always eager to recruit new women. Although only four per cent of the total violent incidents experienced by women result in charges being laid, there is usually a case every day in provincial or Supreme Court to monitor.

In today's case, Judge Harvey finds the ex-husband guilty of assault causing bodily harm. Despite any flaws in the counsel's proceedings, the judge has synthesized two hours of testimony into a five-minute verdict. She overlooks the diversion techniques so common to defense counsel and centres on the issue that a woman was hit with excessive force. It doesn't matter that she is six years older than he is. It doesn't matter if they were born in another country, a culture that is said to be more abusive. The judge finds it unreasonable that the injury was accidental, and the ex-husband is sentenced to 12 months probation and anger management sessions.

The complainant's purple lump disappeared long ago. But today, almost two years after the charges were initially drawn, she has found resolution to her injury in the courts. I'm not sure if she knew exactly what my role was, sitting with her in the courtroom, but as she passed me in the hall she smiled back.

Martlet Photo by Rachel Kiers

Deirdre Collins and Rebecca Holt of Victoria Status of Women's Action Group's Court Monitoring Program



Circus cleans up its act:

fans disappointed by changes to the show

by Darren Stewart

Finally I made it out to my first Jim Rose Circus Sideshow. I had some high expectations after reading the ads touting a "brand new" revamped show and hearing reports of last year's wackos running amok with chainsaws and acrobatic acts involving regurgitation.

I must admit that I, like any other classless philistine paying their hard earned 14 bucks, expect to be disgusted and amazed by this sort of event. I want to find an outlet for my "only-human" instinct to not turn my head when driving past an accident scene. I want to see vomit drunk, limb joints disconnected, unnatural and violent things done to the body with common construction tools, and various other things that go against human common sense and instinct. All these in a happy friendly package—thank you very much.

Sadly, this time around, Rose and his merry bunch of freaks watered down the show with stand-up comedy acts and dragged out a smaller selection of tired old tricks.

In *Secrets of the Strange*, the new incarnation of his show, Rose spends too much time covering an anecdotal history of the circus trade and performing elementary sleight-of-hand magic tricks.

Has Rose sold out his bourgeoisie ire and forgotten us common folk who want simple gore? What happened to swallowing a needle and pulling it out through your chest? What about the topless transvestite wrestlers? Where is the blue tattooed freak who grafted coral to his skull to look like horns? The act of escaping from and re-entering a straight jacket has become too darn cliché—and stop trying to sell us your damn book.

Mr. Lifto does his thing with his thing.
Martlet photo by Peter Booth

According to Rose's ever-present monologue, his book explains how he (gasp) bends a fork with one hand and (say it ain't so) guesses how much change a random member of the audience has in their pocket.

Maybe Rose forgot that we, the Jim-Rose-Circus-Sideshow-watching public, want only to be shocked and appalled and then sent on our way. We can get our high culture from Seinfeld, Stephen King and the Spice Girls. When we go see his notorious sideshow we want to see things that we should not try at home. Isn't that what a sideshow is all about?

Don't get me wrong, the show had its moments. I'd heard about the human dartboard act, but I hadn't seen it yet. Yikes—Bebe the Circus Queen, Rose's wife and fellow performer, buried three bullseyes into his exposed back while he held a board up to protect his spine.

And the fact that Lifto dangled a scaled down version of the Liberty Bell from his penis and rang in the second set was pretty impressive, especially given Rose's commentary explaining that Lifto's member was duct taped because he'd ripped it (does he get workers comp. for that?) on the Nine Inch Nails tour.

And how can you beat bricks being broken on bare chests and disc grinders shooting sparks from iron-clad crotches.

But were these highlights worth the steep admission? I'm certainly glad that I didn't have to pay.

Rose dragged old tricks through clever new narration and called his show "the new circus sideshow." But I would rather be wowed by the old tricks than be bored by sterile new ones.

Does Rose think that throwing a pie into the face of somebody unlucky enough to sit close enough to the front is as fun and satisfying as hypnotizing them to do embarrassing acts on the stage, as he has in the past? Maybe Rose's slower, cleaner, quieter show reflects his recent stint on Broadway.

Alas, even the best of us have to sell out one day.

POW'EM with poetry

Poets sweat it

by Käthe Lemon

On Thursday, March 12 local poets will be sweating it out at Mocambo Café.

Sara Cassidy, the co-organizer of the poetry sweat *Pow'em with poetry*, says that sweats differ from poetry slams in that the poets have to create and perform the pieces on the spot rather than arriving with poems ready to perform.

The poets have a limited time to create their works and read them to the audience. After that the contestants will be judged by Patricia Young and Terence Young.

"The best poems win," says Cassidy. "But the best part is we get to hear all the creations."

Poets can sign up for several different events including the three-minute haiku, the overhead head-to-head (in which two poets simultaneously create poems on overhead projectors and the audience gets to watch the entire creative process) and the extemporize (where competitors will be given one minute to compose a poem in their head and one minute to perform it).

"We expect some people to choke on that," Cassidy says about the extemporize event. "I've never seen it done before."

Cassidy stresses that the events may change between the time of the interview and the poetry sweat. "The events aren't written in stone," she says. "They were, but we lost the stone."

There are a variety of prizes for the winning poems including magic writing pads, tickets to Anne Hathaway cottage and, for the haiku event, tofu.

The poetry sweat is not just for poets though. Audience participation is a big part of the performance.

"Audiences are really generous because they know that all the poems are written right there," says Cassidy. "The idea is to get together and have a good time."

This is the second poetry sweat that Cassidy has been involved in. Last year she helped organize another poetry sweat, *Step into the Ring*.

"I really want people to see poetry get composed," Cassidy says. "People don't want to go near it a lot of the time, especially after school."

For Cassidy this is one step towards the realization of a larger project.

"I want to have some bigger poets writing downtown and have the writing projected onto buildings."

Pow'em with poetry will be held Thursday, March 11 at 7:30 p.m. in Mocambo Café. Tickets cost $2. Call 480-0602 for more information.

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Splice world

by Anna Roik

People no longer ask where in the world their food comes from. Now everyone wonders, "Do I know what my food is?"

With genetic engineering corporations such as Monsanto fiddling with seeds for cereal crops, it's not such a far-fetched question.

Like the *MAI in Oz* production last year, *Splice of Life* will combine music and comedy to educate the audience.

Splice of Life will take the audience on a tour of laboratories from around their world, describing technologies from seed production to warfare.

Jamie Leathem plays Dorothy in last year's *MAI in Oz.*

File photo by Peter Booth

Stacy Chappel, Vancouver Public Interest Research Group coordinator, became interested in this topic around the time Dolly the sheep was cloned. The musical *The Splice of Life* is her way of passing along the information she has collected about genetic engineering.

"Genetic engineering has a broad range of implications from poverty and food security to warfare," says Chappel, who wrote and directed the show.

> ***"Genetic engineering has a broad range of implications from poverty and food security to warfare."***

Monsanto is one of the largest corporations in the genetic engineering business. It is best known for its production of the terminator seed for cereal crops. The plants grown from terminator seeds produce crops with infertile seeds so farmers can't harvest seeds to use the next year, says Chappel. Instead, they have to purchase a new batch of seeds from Monsanto.

"These seeds have no health or crop benefit. It is simply a profit for the companies producing them."

The cast contains 30 performers and six musicians, ranging in age from one to 71.

This year's production, which was directed and scored by Anita Zaenker, includes more musical numbers than *MAI in Oz*. It is the music and comedy, according to Chappel, that will make these scientific topics accessible to everyone.

Chappel says she wants people to take hope from the production.

"There will be information passed out during the play so people can learn what is happening internationally and know there are ways to fight back."

Performances are Friday, March 12 at 8 pm and Saturday, March 13 at 2 pm at the First Metropolitan United Church Hall, 932 Balmoral Street.

Admission is by donation, and all proceeds will be sent to the Together Against Poverty Society and to a seed bank in Saanich working to preserve indigenous plants.

SKAM charts new territory

Stones and Ashes
Theatre SKAM
by Natasha Marsden

Theatre SKAM keeps its flair for oddities and eccentricities in the company's latest production, *Stones and Ashes* by Québec playwright Daniel Denis, but SKAM fans will find this play departs from the company's usual performances.

Stones and Ashes is the sombre tale of Clayton who, after relocating from Montreal, struggles to start a new life with his young daughter Laura.

The town's local hooligans, lead by Shirley and Noodle, throw in a dose of bad-ass behaviour and surprising affections as Shirley falls for Clayton.

"With SKAM, we're known for comic, high speed stuff," said Amiel Gladstone, who is directing the play. "I knew I wanted to do something with more weight, less superficial."

The four characters struggle to make sense of their world, a world of denial where they blame others for their tragedies.

Gladstone describes the drama as experimental storytelling, allowing room for interpretation.

Paul Terry and Janet Macdonald star in Theatre SKAM's *Stones and Ashes.*

photo by Bruce Stotesbury

The cast was selected early so that they could try different approaches and develop the best way to tell the story.

Gladstone said each actor finds how their character fits into the grand message of the play rather than isolating the individual motivations.

The set designers have experimented with light and sound to transform the Belfry studio space from one setting to the next. Minimal props are used, leaving space for the language and audience's imagination to fill in the gaps of what isn't on stage.

With *Stone and Ashes* SKAM steps into the new territory of intense drama.

Tickets are available through the Belfry Theatre Box Office: 385-6815.

Reservations are recommended, as the show dates are limited. Stone and Ashes *runs from March 16 to 21.*

Blood on the Dancefloor

by Käthe Lemon

I like a good, cheap drink as much as the next person, maybe more, maybe too much—but that's a whole different story.

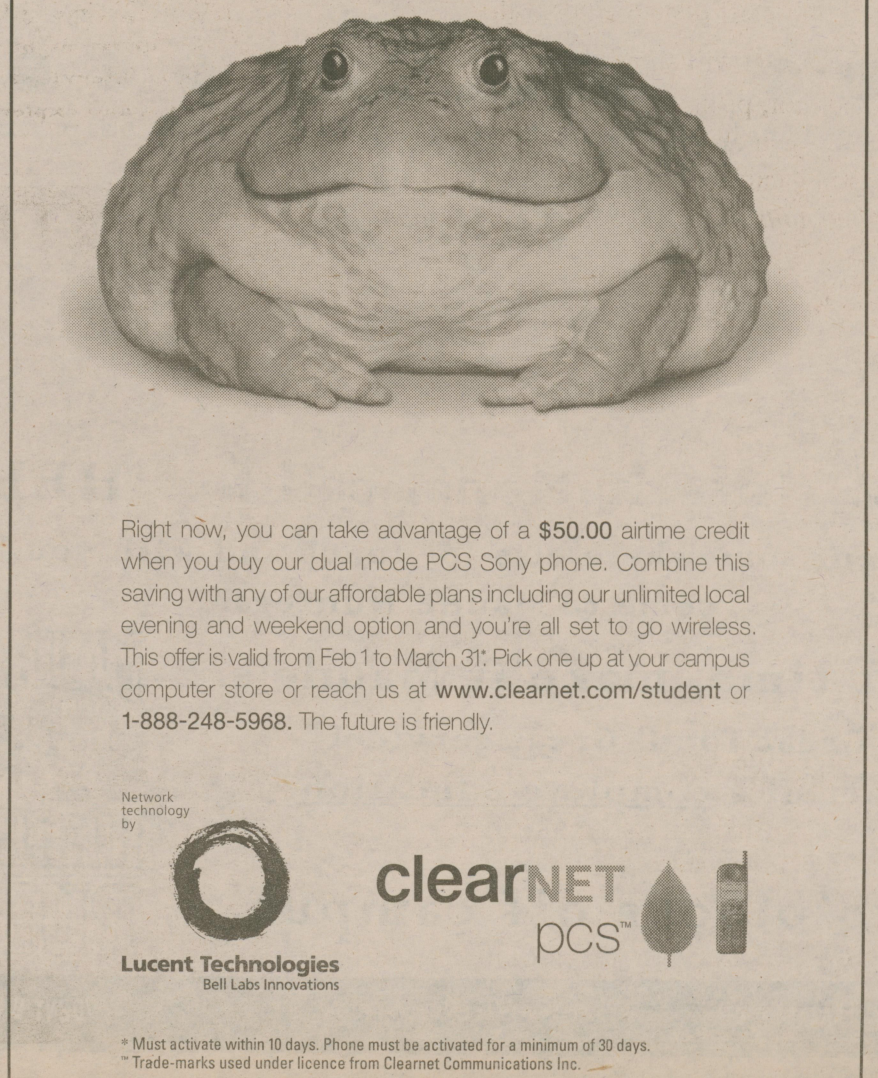
What I don't like is waiting in lines—especially when it's completely unnecessary.

There is a certain teeny-weeny club in town that offers a super-fantastic $2 drink special on Thursday nights. These aren't the type of $2 drinks that you have to hold your nose just to get down. These are drinks you want to drink—any drink you want to drink.

Obviously this is gonna be a popular place—the kids are gonna struggle to get in on time. And as mentioned before, this paticular club makes my living room look like a football field. It makes sense that there would be a line-up—or does it?

Last Thursday I ended up waiting in line, in the cold, in the dark, wearing clothing apropriate for dancing but not for Sub-Arctic temperatures. I waited for over an hour—and what for? As it turns out, not because the place was full, not because management could only let so many people in at a time, but because they liked the aesthetic appeal of a mob of half-frozen people milling about on the sidewalk. In fact they liked this look so much they wouldn't even let people inside to use the washroom.

Well, poop on you blues-hounds. There are other places that offer good drink specials and aren't quite so pig-headed. Those places also don't play the new Cher song three times in one night.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Listen up: Chris Willer Speaks

Kettle of Fish 88-98
Fish
Roadrunner Records
by Chris Willer

I'll be honest—when I picked up this CD I thought it was Phish, not Fish. You know, the living version of the Grateful Dead? That Phish. Instead I got confused and picked up Fish. Big mistake.

Fish is a former member of Marillion—that in itself sets the mood for *Kettle of Fish*.

This album is essentially a greatest hits package without any greatest hits.

Now wait a cotton pickin' moment—I'm being too critical. If you like early Peter Gabriel, Genesis or that sort of thing, Fish is right up your stream. If you don't like that soft feel of the '80s Brit scene that Gabriel at his worst and Phil Collins at his most dismal exemplify, then Fish will not sit well in your stomach.

Unfortunately for Fish, his work just isn't that special in a musical world that has so much more to offer than rehashes of music that didn't even sound too great a decade ago.

The Phoenix ends its Shakespeare season with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The play, a favorite with high-school English teachers and outdoor theatre troupes, tells the story of what can happen when supernatural forces meddle in the affairs of the heart.
In other words it's all about sex, but because of its historical longevity it receives more critical acclaim than *Cruel Intentions*.
The majority of the design and direction for the production is done by Phoenix students. The show also features original music by Robert Holliston, music consultant for the theatre department.
Mairi Babb (Titania) and Geoff Gustafson (Bottom) interpret the deeper meaning of the play, which opens March 11 at the Phoenix Theatre.
Call 721-8000 for ticket information.

Martlet photo by Peter Booth

Theatre etc...

by Lydia Del Bianco

Classical theatre is on an uprise—at least in Victoria.

First with the season of Shakespeare at the Phoenix, and now with the opening of a new theatre company dedicated to the classics: Ensemble Theatre Company, or ETC.

Tariq Leslie and Elvy Del Bianco, two recent graduates of the London Academy of Music and Drama, have started this new repertory company, which is dedicated to the performance of classical theatre.

"Broadly defined, this means everything from Greek and Medieval plays to Shakespeare, Jacobean tragedies, the Restoration and the classics of the early 20th century," said co-artistic director Elvy Del Bianco.

ETC will also present lesser known works of continental Europe and contemporary classics that have not been made available to Victoria audiences.

"As active members of the local theatre community, we will use our experience and contacts and the training we have both recently completed to present plays that are challenging, accessible, provoking and, above all, entertaining," said Tariq Leslie, co-artistic director.

Both Leslie and Del Bianco are local actors whose previous experiences included the Victoria Fringe Festival, Theatre SKAM, and The Shakespeare Festival before attending LAMDA.

The decision to return to Victoria and established a new company dedicated to the classics was made over pints of Guinness and sealed by handshake in a London pub in 1998.

ETC is now preparing for its first performance on March 17th at the Victoria Conservatory of Music Hall on Pandora.

ETC's premiere season will see John Ford's *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* (1633) and David Mamet's *Speed the Plow* (1985). Both plays will be performed by a single ensemble cast and presented in repertory.

Repertory style consists of presenting two shows at the same time, with the cast taking turns performing both.

"Working on at least two plays simultaneously will challenge our actors," said Del Bianco. "The ensemble environment will allow company members to learn and grow together."

Leslie believes that this arrangement will best be able to develop the actors' skills as well as create a strong commitment from the cast.

Both Leslie and Del Bianco believe in the importance of bringing classical theatre to Victoria. In the local theatre community at present, there are no classical companies in existence, although there is a wide variety of children's, modern, and new theatre in spaces like the Belfry and Kaleidoscope Theatres.

The stress on lyrical language is what sets the classics apart from more realistic plays, said Del Bianco.

"Doing the classics is a little like doing a foreign play: it's exotic," said Del Bianco, "they put you in a different time and place, a different culture."

'Tis Pity She's a Whore will begin March 17 and will play with Speed the Plow. *For ticket information please call 413-3103.*

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Breaking even with the Bears

Although both the women's and men's teams will play for the national championship this season, only one team can call themselves Canada West Champs

by Jeff Rea

For the first time this season, it wasn't a perfect weekend at McKinnon for the Vikes. They actually, gasp, lost in their own gym.

The men's basketball team failed to capture their third straight Canada West title this past weekend by dropping the final game of the best-of-three series with the Alberta Golden Bears. The women, however, did what the men couldn't, and closed the deal in the Canada West with an impressive 70-64 win on Sunday.

For the men it was a series of missed opportunities. They had a chance to pull away in the late stages of Friday's game but couldn't. A last second trey, which rolled off the rim later that game, would have sealed it if it fell, but it didn't. And had they held the Golden Bears off in a late serge on Sunday the title would be theirs, but it isn't.

After dropping their opener in heart-breaking fashion, the men rebounded to thump the Bears 69-52 on Saturday and force the deciding game.

But in the finale a tired UVic team gave up a 32-26 half-time lead and couldn't hold off a charged up Albertan side in the game's latter half. UVic dropped the contest 56-51.

But it was Friday's game that set the tone for the series. UVic was leading the whole way until a Ryan Mulholland three with four ticks on the clock put the Bears up by one. Robbie Green had a chance to win the game off the wing with a quick release trey at the buzzer but his shot didn't fall.

Mulholland was open behind the arch for the winner because Green, his man, had fallen after colliding with a player at the top of the key.

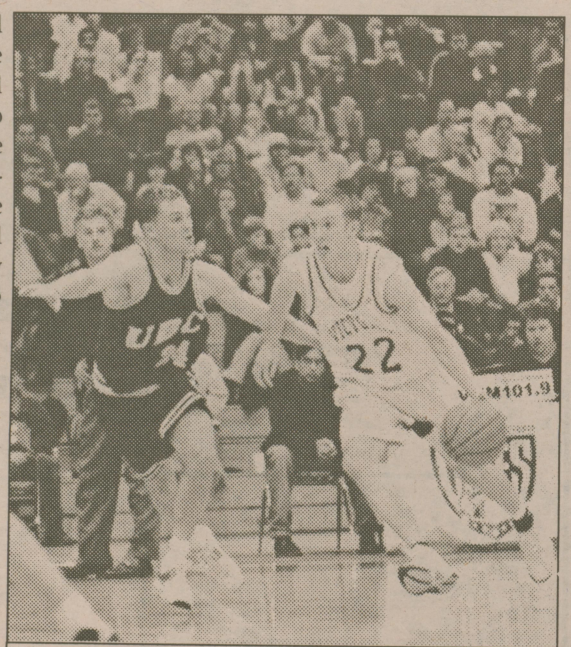
It was a fitting end to an imperfect night for the rookie. Earlier, with 23 seconds remaining and the Vikes up by two, Green had a chance to put a dagger into the Bears but couldn't finish off on a drive through the lane. That set up Mulholland's heroics.

With the win the Vikes could have clinched the nation's number one seed heading into the Final 8. But instead, UVic will wait until the CIAU Big 8 selection committee meets this Sunday to determine the two national wildcards to see if they're going.

They should be a lock to pick up the first berth, having spent the last several weeks atop the national pole and only dropping to number three despite the weekend setback. The other wildcard will most likely be a toss up between McMaster, who was hammed by Waterloo in their conference semi, or Lethbridge, who came within one possession of knocking Alberta off two weeks ago in the Canada West semi. Quebec's loser, either Bishop's, last year's national champ, or Concordia, has a solid argument for the berth as well.

But Vikes head coach Guy Vetrie doesn't think Sunday's loss will hurt their chances of making it in, let alone winning it all.

"If you go to the rankings, I think we're going to be seeded three," he said. "There's a lot of pressure being seeded one. Now that's one thing we don't have to deal with."



Robbie Green, shown here against UBC, had a tough night on Friday. The first-year Vike had a chance to put the Vikes up by four late in the game but couldn't convert on a drive to the hoop. UBC took the opener 67-66.

Martlet photo by Ryan Lash

But Simon got her revenge in a one-sided overtime that allowed the Pandas to pull away to a 68-60 victory. She ended the game with 23 points and 15 boards, in shooting 60 per cent from the field.

But the Vikes still took the series on Sunday with a convincing 70-64 win. A nine-point gap late in the game was dropped to two with two Cathy Butlin treys in the closing minutes. But Megan Dalziel put down one of two from the line with under a minute to play which set UVic in front by four to stay.

Lindsay Brooke played, perhaps, her best game at McKinnon Gym. The gutsy UVic point guard led her team with 19 points, six assists and three steals. She nailed two threes, shot 60 per cent from the floor and managed to get to the line 10 times.

The Vikes now look to repeat as national champions as well. UVic will open against Concordia (see page 14) and are unquestionably on the easier side of the draw. McMaster, who spent the year outside of the Top 10 rankings, and an unproved New Brunswick team are UVic's only other potential obstacles on their way to the finals.

Their first game is Thursday at 11:00 a.m. pst and will be broadcast on CFUV 101.9 FM. The final, Sunday at 1:00 p.m., will be aired nationally on TSN.

A nine-point gap late in the game was dropped to two with two Cathy Butlin treys in the closing minutes.

Women's Action

UVic's women picked up two more wins over Alberta this past weekend in taking their fourth consecutive Canada West title. The Vikes were rewarded with the number one seed at the National Championships in Thunder Bay, Ontario this week.

A Ryan Mulholland three with four ticks on the clock put the Bears up by one.

But UVic struggled all weekend against a determined Pandas teams that just didn't seem willing to go away.

After a 48-42 Friday win, it was Victoria who was fighting to stay in the game in the dying seconds on Saturday. Alberta had possession with a fresh shot clock after a Lily Blair block, and missed not only the shot but a two-foot putback at the buzzer. It was all-star Jackie Simon who collected the board and went up unsuccessful at the horn.

CIAU basketball

Men's

Canada West

Results:	*Final, best-of-three*
Friday	**Alberta (3) 67, UVic (1) 66**
Saturday	**UVic (1) 69, Alberta (3) 52**
Sunday	**Alberta (3) 56, UVic (1) 51**

Alberta wins best-of-three series 2-1.
Alberta are the Canada West champions.

Atlantic

Results:	
Friday	New Brunswick 89, UPEI 75
Saturday	Dalhousie 88, Acadia 76
	UCCB 101, Memorial 78
	UPEI 88, New Brunswick 78
	St. FX (10) 69, St. Mary's 60
Sunday	UCCB 98, Memorial 63

Playoff tournament is this weekend.

Quebec

Results:	*Semi-final, single elimination*
Thursday	Concordia (9) 74, McGill 65
	Final, best-of-three
Sunday	Con. (9) 76, Bishop's (6) 55

Concordia leads best-of-three series 1-0.

Ontario West

Results:	*Quarter-finals*
Wednesday	Waterloo 66, Windsor 49
	Lakehead 79, Guelph 76
	Semi-finals
Thursday	Waterl. 80, McMaster (5) 51
	Western (2) 93, Lakehead 75
	Conference Final
Saturday	Western (2) 66, Waterloo 61

Western are the Ontario West champions.

Ontario East

Results:	*Semi-finals*
Thursday	Carleton 91, Ottawa 68
	Ryerson 74, Laurentn. (7) 66
	Conference Final
Friday	Ryerson 50, Carleton 44

Ryerson are the Ontario East champions.

Great Plains

Results:	*Semi-final, best-of-three*
Thurday	Manitoba 75, Regina 73
Friday	Regina 86, Manitoba 80
Saturday	Manitoba 97, Regina 90

Best-of-three final this weekend with Brandon.

Women's

Canada West

Results:	*Final, best-of-three*
Friday	**UVic (1) 48, Alberta (2) 42**
Saturday	**Alb (2) 62, UVic (1) 60 [ot]**
Sunday	**UVic (1) 70, Alberta (2) 64**

Victoria wins best-of-three series 2-1.
Victoria are the Canada West champions.

Atlantic

Results:	*Quarter-finals*
Friday	UPEI 72, Memorial 66
	Dalhousie 58, St. Mary's 43
	Semi-finals
Saturday	St. FX 86, UPEI 80
	UNB (4) 72, Dalhousie 46
	Conference Final
Sunday	UNB (4) 78, St. FX 56

New Brunswick are Atlantic champions.

Quebec

Results:	*Conference Final*
Saturday	Concrda. (9) 79, Lvl. (10) 70

Concordia are the Quebec champions.

Ontario West

Results:	*Semi-finals*
Friday	Western 74, Lakehead 57
	McMaster 63, Guelph 53
	Conference Final
Saturday	McMaster 74, Westrn. 69 [ot]

McMaster are the Ontario West champions.

Ontario East

Results:	*Semi-finals*
Thursday	Toronto 86, Queen's (8) 71
	Laurentian(5) 80, Ryerson 61
	Conference Final
Friday	Laurentian (5) 63, Toronto 55

Laurentian are the Ontario East champions.

Great Plains

Results:	*Final, best-of-three*
Friday	Regina (3) 87, Man. (6) 85
Saturday	Regina (3) 71, Man. (6) 60

Regina win best-of-three series 2-0.
Regina are the Great Plains champions.

National Statistics

Scoring

	G	P	Ave.
Ryan Holmes, Regina	15	386	25.7
Jan Trojanowski, Acadia	20	443	22.2
Fred Perry, St. FX	20	425	21.3
Eric Hinrichsen, UVic	**20**	**421**	**21.1**
Doug Newson, Dal	20	412	20.6
Matej Martoli, Wpg	15	307	20.5
Steve Anderson, Wind	14	282	20.1
David Phillip, CCB	20	399	20.0
Danny Balderson, Leth	20	398	19.9
Richard Lovelace, Bdn	15	295	19.7
Jermaine Bruce, Mem	16	312	19.5
Spencer Holt, Leth	20	375	18.8
Ken Hodgkins, WLU	13	239	18.4
Jay Prosper, Con	20	360	18.0
Kirt Mombouquette, CCB	19	341	17.9

Rebounding

	G	R	Ave.
Eric Hinrichsen, UVic	**20**	**231**	**11.6**
Jan Trojanowski, Aca	20	210	10.5
Jay Prosper, Con	20	206	10.3
Ramon McElmurry, Lkd	14	142	10.1
Matthew Chapman, Mem	16	147	9.2
David Phillip, CCB	20	182	9.1
Trevor John, Bdn	15	126	8.4
Steve Anderson, Wind	14	113	8.1
Ken Hodgkins, WLU	13	104	8.0
Jason Dayman, St. FX	19	147	7.7
Nick Maglisceau, Alb	20	153	7.7

Field Goal Percentage

	A	M	%
Patrice Lemieux, Bis	152	99	65.1
Jan Trojanowski, Aca	265	172	64.9
Chris Smith, UPEI	111	72	64.9
Jim Morris, UPEI	159	100	62.9
Trevor John, Bdn	94	59	62.8
Joel Sherbino, Bis	133	83	62.4
Brooke Daye, CCB	117	73	62.4
Robert Burns, Bis	169	105	62.1
Jared Heidinger, Leth	176	109	61.9
Colin Martin, UVic	**118**	**71**	**60.2**

3 Point Field Goal Percentage

	A	M	%
Richard Lovelace, Bdn	54	26	48.1
Ramon McElmurry, Lkd	40	19	47.5
Scott Goebel, Reg	54	25	46.3
Kevin Keeler, UBC	70	32	45.7
Robbie Green, UVic	**101**	**46**	**45.5**

National Statistics

Scoring

	G	P	Ave.
Jennifer Johnston, UPEI	18	362	20.1
Angela Hrkac, Lkd	14	273	19.5
Stephanie Harrison, Ltn	20	385	19.3
Jennifer Haylor, Wes	14	265	18.9
Christie Taylor, Bdn	12	217	18.1
Leighann Doan, Cal	16	288	18.0
Allison Fairbrother, Sask	20	353	17.7
Marie Heroux, Con	20	349	17.5
Anne Smith, Man	15	259	17.3
Lynn Robertson, UNB	20	345	17.3
Jessica Mills, UBC	20	339	17.0
Miruna Muller, Rye	20	337	16.9
Erin Soroko, Wpg	15	248	16.5
Pat Marcello, Gue	14	231	16.5
Ann Murrin, Mem	20	329	16.5

Rebounding

	G	R	Ave.
Angela Hrkac, Lkd	14	202	14.4
Marie Heroux, Con	20	218	10.9
Lisa Ward, StM	20	195	9.8
Leighann Doan, Cal	16	146	9.1
Kate Ellis, UPEI	20	180	9.0
Christina Blouw, Man	15	135	9.0
Terena Caryk, Bdn	15	133	8.9
Ann Murrin, Mem	20	171	8.6
Stephanie Splitter, Tor	18	151	8.4
Jackie Simon, Alb	20	167	8.4
Catherine Poch, Ott	18	148	8.2

Field Goal Percentage

	A	M	%
Stephanie Harrison, Ltn	253	158	62.5
Lynn Robertson, UNB	225	138	61.3
Jessica Mills, UBC	247	148	59.9
Laura Swift, UNB	187	110	58.8
Corrin Wersta, Reg	143	84	58.7
Kate Myron, UPEI	152	88	57.9
Heidi MacNeil, CCB	206	119	57.8
Bonny Munn, UNB	153	88	57.5
Lindsay Anderson, UVic	**127**	**73**	**57.5**
Kristen Moore, St. FX	206	116	56.3

3 Point Field Goal Percentage

	A	M	%
Heidi Schwartz, Wpg	38	17	44.7
Megan Dalziel, UVic	**41**	**18**	**43.9**
Lindsay Brooke, UVic	**46**	**19**	**41.3**
Andrea Thomson, Que	68	28	41.2
Natalie Hudec, Leth	50	20	40.0

Key: G=games played, P=points, R=rebounds, A=attempts, M=made, Ave.=average, [ot]=overtime, (x)=previous weeks ranking

VIKES SOCCER & RUGBY WEEKEND

Vikes Rugby (Men) vs. Nanaimo, Saturday, March 13, Wallace Field, 1pm
Vikes Soccer (Men) vs. Fraser Valley, Saturday, March 13, at Field 5, 3pm
Vikes Soccer (Men) vs. University College of the Cariboo, Sunday, March 14, at Field 5, 3pm

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA VIKES BASKETBALL

COME OUT & SUPPORT YOUR TEAMS!!!

Women's National Championships

Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario

Victoria 29-3 *Canada West*

Quarter-Final
11:00 a.m. pst
Thursday, March 11
broadcast on CFUV 101.9

Concordia 19-11 *Quebec*

Semi-Final
3:30 p.m. pst
Friday, March 12
CFUV 101.9

McMaster 24-10 *OUA West*

Quarter-Final
1:00 p.m. pst
Thursday, March 11

New Brunswick 26-2 *Atlantic*

Alberta 32-7 *Wildcard*

Quarter-Final
3:30 p.m. pst
Thursday, March 11

Manitoba 19-16 *Wildcard*

Semi-Final
5:30 p.m. pst
Friday, March 12

versus

Laurentian 24-5 *OUA east*

Quarter-Final
5:30 p.m. pst
Thursday, March 11

Regina 24-4 *GPAC*

CIAU Championship Game
1:00 p.m. pst
Sunday, March 14
Broadcast on TSN and CFUV

Who could possibly beat UVic?

It could be a difficult path for the Vikes' women to repeat as national champs. Here's who stands in their way.

Regina Cougars

The Cougars are strong. On their way to winning the Great Plains Conference, they've beaten Top 10 teams 10 times in a row, crushed McMaster 83-58 and split with Alberta in late October. They have a 10-1 record outside of their conference and won eight straight coming into the season's final weekend. They're 12-4 against teams with above .500 records and average an amazing 77 points per game—second only to UNB's 80 ppg. If the Vikes or Pandas struggle against anyone it will be the Cougs.

Odds of winning it all: 4-1; they're as good as the Vikes.

Alberta Pandas

Although the Pandas may be the toughest team in the tournament, they are obviously the least likely to surprise the Vikes. Alberta, the nation's third-ranked team going into the tournament, have met Victoria seven times this season and only managed one win. Still, the U of A are serious contenders behind their talented post Jackie Simon and all-star guard Rania Burns. Don't be stunned to see the same two teams on TSN this Sunday as you saw in McKinnon Gym a week earlier. But the outcome may be different.

Odds of winning it all: 9-2; played UVic tough all weekend.

UNB Varsity Reds

The Reds are the biggest question mark in the tournament; they could be the strongest team in the Vikes' path or they could be a first-round victim. UNB rolled to an impressive 19-1 league record before cruising through the playoffs this past weekend with 26 and 22-point wins. But the Reds are unproven against top competition—they haven't played a team outside of their weak conference since Jan. 3. In fact, their only game against a tournament team came in their season opener. In it they beat Concordia 57-53.

Odds of winning it all: 9-1; vulnerable to a first-round upset.

Manitoba Bisons

The Bisons have been screwed over and then screwed over again this season. After heroically reaching the final best-of-three series in the always tough Great Plains Conference, the Bisons were rewarded with an opening match tilt with the Pandas. In any other conference, Manitoba may have strolled through their schedule and walked into the nationals as a high seed—like UNB has. But instead they've battled to earn a wildcard berth to the Dance, only to be placed on the same side of the draw as Alberta and Regina.

Odds of winning it all: 15-1; shouldn't get past the Pandas.

Laurentian Lady Vees

How tough do the Vees have it? After reaching the nationals with a 24-5 overall record and beating above .500 teams 11 out of 14 times this season, Laurentian was given a seven seed. As a result they'll have to beat Regina in their opener and then face off against either Alberta or Manitoba on their way to the final. As good as the Vees may be, they won't go far this year, even with Stephanie Harrison, one of the country's most dimensional players and talented scorers.

Odds of winning it all: 25-1; could catch Cougs off guard.

McMaster Marauders

Mac has played well of late—beating Western, Laurentian and Guelph twice in their last four games. The Marauders won their conference by taking nine of their last 10 and winning six straight going into Thunder Bay. Any team this hot certainly could be a thorn in the side of the untested Varsity Reds.

Odds of winning it all: 12-1; could go on a run, they're hot.

Concordia Stingers

As long as the Vikes don't look past them, the Stingers shouldn't be much of a first-round obstacle. Concordia did, however, beat a tough Laval side to qualify for the nationals and are 7-3 in their last 10. But they've struggled against good teams this year, losing in all three of their games against tournament teams—by one and 11 to Laurentian and by four to New Brunswick.

Odds of winning it all: 25-1; Vikes can't look past the Quebec champs.

Stay up to date over the weekend by tuning into CFUV 101.9 FM for live game coverage with Scooby and Shaggy. Sunday's final is also broadcast nationally on TSN.

- Jeff Rea

THE BRICKYARD PIZZA

EVERY WEEKEND the Brickyard hosts

LIVE ROCK!

Friday March 12 Loose Caboose Prod.
Saturday March 13 The Leonards

Every Tuesday is Open Stage Night

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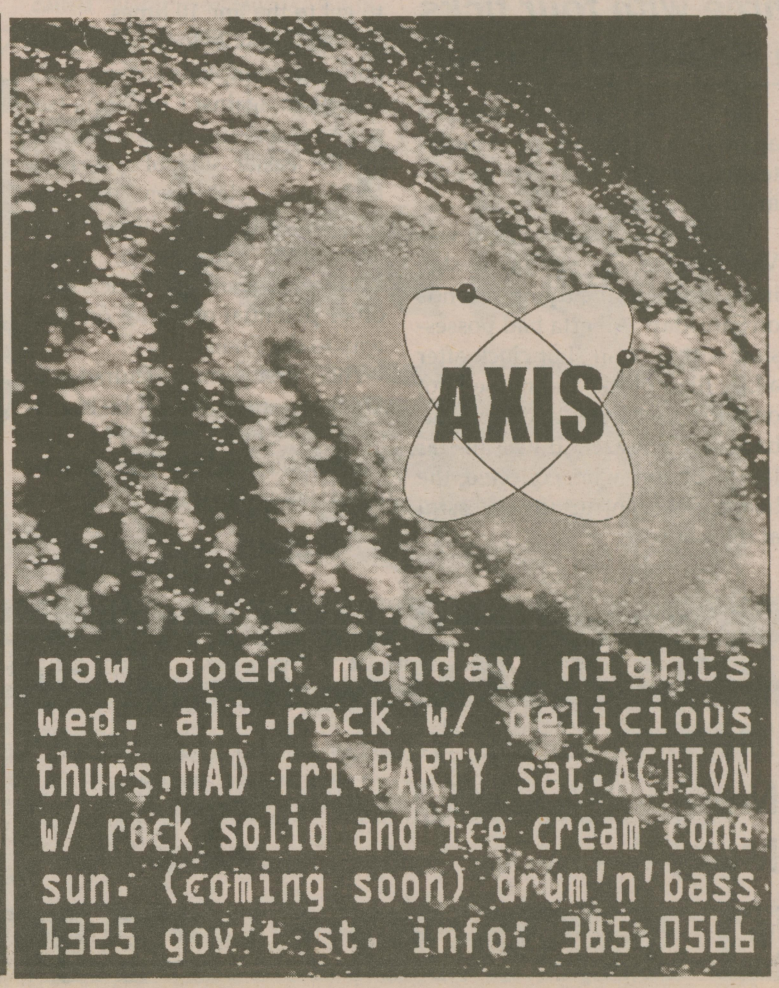
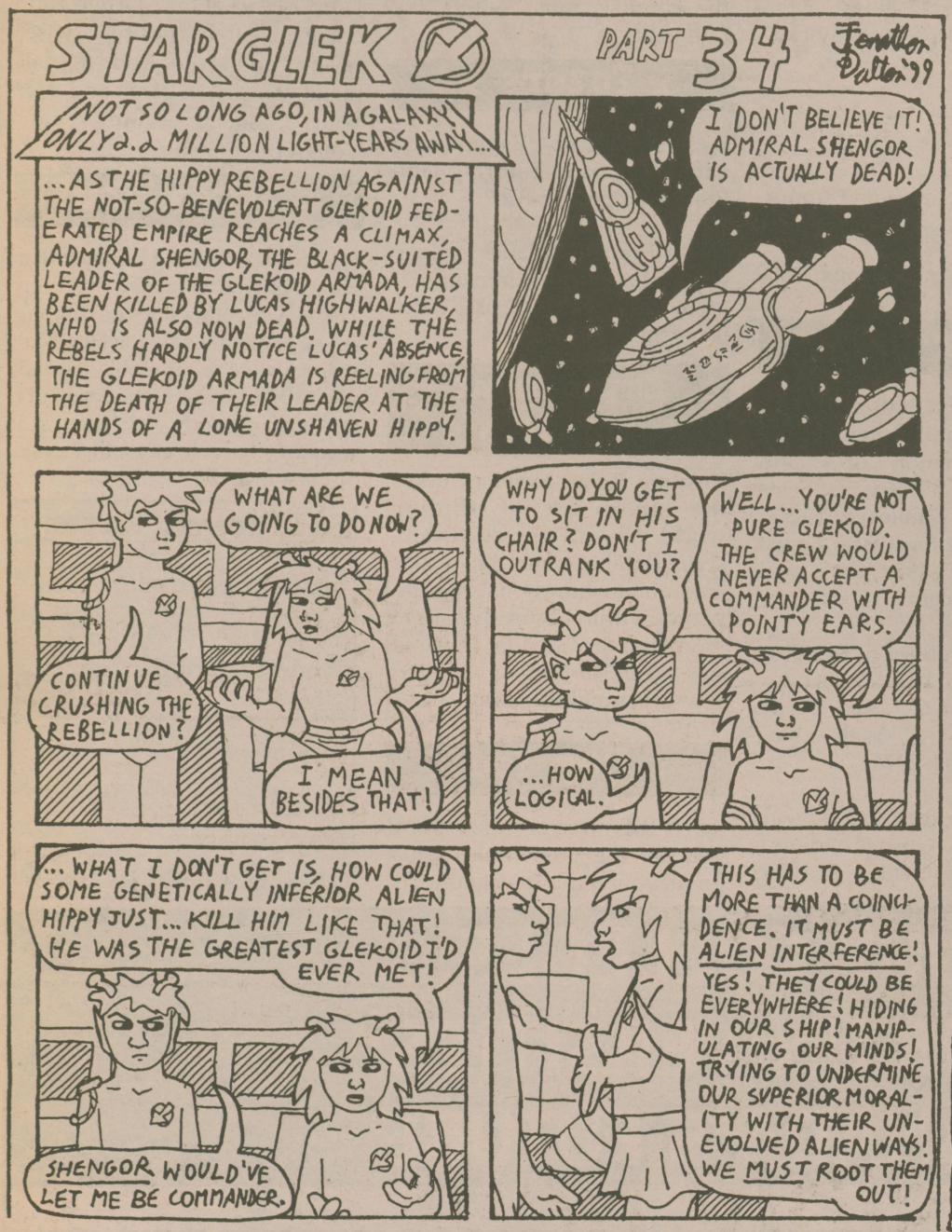
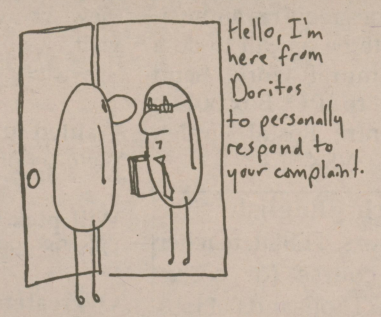
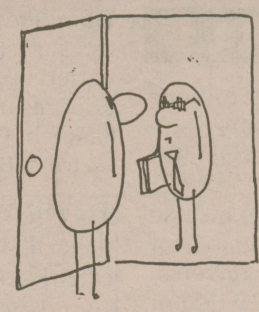
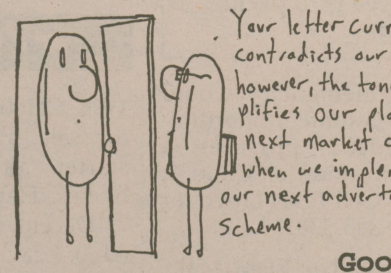
Bring this ad in on your next visit
and receive two slices for *$5.00 !*

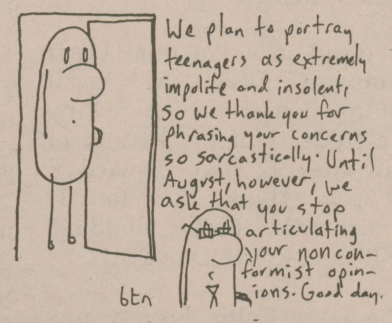

AXIS
now open monday nights
wed. alt.rock w/ delicious
thurs.MAD fri.PARTY sat.ACTION
w/ rock solid and ice cream cone
sun. (coming soon) drum'n'bass
1325 gov't st. info: 385-0566

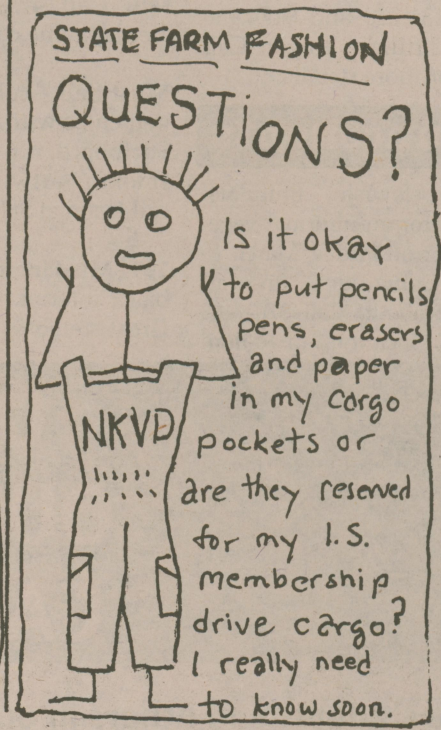

STARGLEK
PART 34
Jonathon Dalton '99
NOT SO LONG AGO, IN A GALAXY ONLY 2.2 MILLION LIGHT-YEARS AWAY...
...AS THE HIPPY REBELLION AGAINST THE NOT-SO-BENEVOLENT GLEKOID FEDERATED EMPIRE REACHES A CLIMAX, ADMIRAL SHENGOR, THE BLACK-SUITED LEADER OF THE GLEKOID ARMADA, HAS BEEN KILLED BY LUCAS HIGHWALKER, WHO IS ALSO NOW DEAD. WHILE THE REBELS HARDLY NOTICE LUCAS' ABSENCE, THE GLEKOID ARMADA IS REELING FROM THE DEATH OF THEIR LEADER AT THE HANDS OF A LONE UNSHAVEN HIPPY.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! ADMIRAL SHENGOR IS ACTUALLY DEAD!
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW?
CONTINUE CRUSHING THE REBELLION?
I MEAN BESIDES THAT!
WHY DO YOU GET TO SIT IN HIS CHAIR? DON'T I OUTRANK YOU?
WELL... YOU'RE NOT PURE GLEKOID. THE CREW WOULD NEVER ACCEPT A COMMANDER WITH POINTY EARS.
...HOW LOGICAL.
...WHAT I DON'T GET IS, HOW COULD SOME GENETICALLY INFERIOR ALIEN HIPPY JUST... KILL HIM LIKE THAT! HE WAS THE GREATEST GLEKOID I'D EVER MET!
SHENGOR WOULD'VE LET ME BE COMMANDER.
THIS HAS TO BE MORE THAN A COINCIDENCE. IT MUST BE ALIEN INTERFERENCE!
YES! THEY COULD BE EVERYWHERE! HIDING IN OUR SHIP! MANIPULATING OUR MINDS! TRYING TO UNDERMINE OUR SUPERIOR MORALITY WITH THEIR UNEVOLVED ALIEN WAYS! WE MUST ROOT THEM OUT!




We defend our decision to represent teenagers as slack-jawed and illiterate; it was our interpretation of market research data, from the previous quarter, which we used in putting together our present ad strategy for the 13–21 age group.


Your letter currently contradicts our findings; however, the tone exemplifies our plans for next market cycle, when we implement our next advertising scheme.
Goombas


We plan to portray teenagers as extremely impolite and insolent, so we thank you for phrasing your concerns so sarcastically. Until August, however, we ask that you stop articulating your non-conformist opinions. Good day.
btn

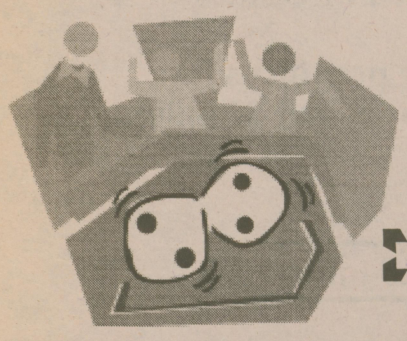

STATE FARM FASHION
QUESTIONS?
NKVD
Is it okay to put pencils pens, erasers and paper in my cargo pockets or are they reserved for my I.S. membership drive cargo? I really need to know soon.

STARGLEK
PART 35
Jonathon Dalton '99
NOT SO LONG AGO IN A GALAXY ONLY 2.2 MILLION LIGHT-YEARS AWAY...
...AS THE HIPPY REBELLION AGAINST THE NOT-SO-BENEVOLENT GLEKOID FEDERATED EMPIRE REACHES A CLIMAX, ADMIRAL SHENGOR, LEADER OF THE GLEKOID FORCES, HAS BEEN KILLED BY A LONE HIPPY ON THE "DEATH ASTEROID" WITH THEIR LEADER GONE, COMMANDER BENHAS TAKEN COMMAND OF THE GLEKOID FLEET, VOWING TO UNCOVER A SUPPOSED HIPPY CONSPIRACY TO UNDERMINE GLEKOID SUPERIOR MORALITY.
...SEE, THE DEATH OF SOMEONE AS IMPORTANT AS ADMIRAL SHENGOR CAN'T JUST BE AN ACCIDENT!
YES, COMMANDER.
AND WE KNOW THESE ALIENS ARE JUST WAITING TO UPSET OUR UTOPIAN SOCIETY!
YES, COMMANDER.
AHA! THE PRISONER! TECHNICIAN LOSAM, YOU ARE ACCUSED OF CONSPIRING WITH ALIENS! HOW DO YOU PLEAD?
MA'AM! I DIDN'T DO IT!
OH NO? YOU'RE ON RECORD AS HAVING SAID ONCE IN PASSING, "WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT ALIENS?" ADMIT IT! YOU DON'T BELIEVE OUR SPECIES TO BE THE CLIMAX OF EVOLUTION! YOU'VE BEEN CONSPIRING TO UNDERMINE THE FEDERATED EMPIRE!
WHAT? NO!
THEN WHY DID WE FIND THIS ALIEN HIDING IN YOUR BATHROOM?!
BE MELLOW, DUDE. GROOVY.
I SWEAR! I'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE IN MY LIFE! I DIDN'T KNOW FEDERATED IMPERIAL SHIPS EVEN HAD BATHROOMS!
COME ON, TECHNICIAN. ADMIT YOUR CRIME! I KNOW YOU DIDN'T MEAN TO BETRAY YOUR SPECIES. NO TRUE GLEKOID COULD CONSCIOUSLY UNDERMINE OUR EVOLVED MORALITY. THESE ALIENS HAVE BEEN MANIPULATING YOU AS WELL! ADMITTING YOUR GUILT CAN ONLY HELP YOU!

CASINO NIGHT

Friday, March 12, 1999
Grad Centre - Starting at 7pm

Admission is a contribution of three food items for the UVic Student Food Bank. We provide you with gambling cash. Play the table and use your winnings to bid on some great prizes at the end of the night.



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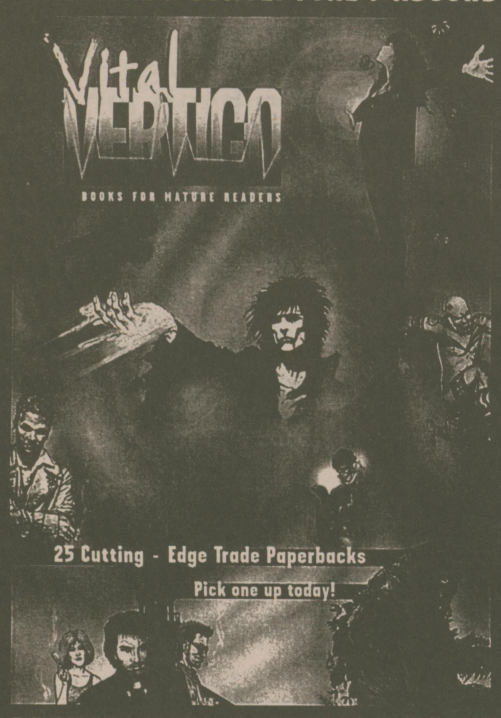

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Available at:
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CURIOUS COMICS BOOKS & GAMES

We're on the road again.

Dear Riders,

We regret the service disruption of the past week. We are now back on the road and hope you'll be back with us too. All scheduled buses are running. Please refer to the information below regarding March monthly passes.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Welcome back!

From the management and staff of BC Transit

March Passes Holders
March passes remain valid and cash rebates are available. At month's end you will receive a rebate, as noted below.

Buying a March Pass remains a good deal
If you have not purchased your March pass - you may do so now at the full rate and benefit at month's end from the rebate. Buying a pass is still a good deal and with the rebate - even better. That's because during any month of the year, you need only make 14 two-way, one zone trips or 10 two-way, multi zone trips to make your pass cost effective.

Rebate
$16 for adult and college students $11 for seniors and high school students

At month's end, bring your pass to any of the following locations for your cash rebate: BC Transit, 520 Gorge Road or Greater Victoria Savings Credit Union/all locations: 1001 Blanshard; #103-1633 Hillside; or 716 Goldstream Avenue

Or mail your March pass to BC Transit, Box 610, Victoria, BC V8W 2P3.

Rebate expires on Friday, April 9 at close of business.

ProPass holders
Check with your payroll department or ProPass administrator for details on payroll credits.

BUSLINE 382 • 6161
http://www.transitbc.com
BC Transit Victoria Regional Transit System

• On-Campus •

The Mature Students Association invites mature students to DROP BY OUR OFFICE in the SUB Bsmt. B-023 Mondays, 10a.m., to 12p.m., and Wed. & Thurs., 2 to 4p.m., for free coffee/tea and conversation. For info call Jan 721-1952 or jclewis@uvic.ca

Involved in a Potential Legal Problem? Visit the Legal Information Clinic offered by the students of the Faculty of Law. Tues., 12:30 to 1:30, Wed., 5 to 7p.m., Thurs., 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. Rm 125 Begbie Building. FREE and CONFIDENTIAL.

The UVic Celtic Society presents "Scottish Country Dancing" with Anita Mathur. Every Tuesday in the SUB Multi-Purpose room, 7-9 pm.

The Future of UVic–have your say! Campus Plan Update workshop, hosted by the Commmunity for an Environmentally Responsible Campus (CERC) Thurs., March 11, 7 p.m., SUB Multi-Purpose room.

Past Lives, Dreams and Soul Travel Workshop. March 22, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the SUB Multi-Purpose Room. All welcome.

Catch Dr. Alan Kohn from the U of Washington's Zoology Dept. speaking on "A Snail's Pace: Ecological and Evolutionary Divesification of Conus" Fri., March 12, Cunningham 146 at 2:30.

"**Activism and Ecology**: Christian Responses" with Professor Loren Wilkinson, Fri., March 12, 12:00-2:00 p.m. at Cornett A121.

* Off-Campus *

VIPIRG presents "The Splice of Life," a musical about biotechnology. Funny and informative, March 12 at 8p.m. and March 13 at 2p.m. Both at Metropolitan United Church Hall, 932 Balmoral Street. Admission by donation.

Help Wanted

Secretary needed immediately. Person should be motivated and have excellent people skills. Car a must. Interested people should call Mr. White at 655-7194.

Student Works Painting is now hiring painters/crewchiefs. Some experience preferred but not necessary. Vehicle an asset. $8 to $10 per hour. Call Justin @ 380-0131.

Students of Recreation or Child and Youth Care are needed to volunteer with Saanich Recreation working with teens and pre-teens at a drop-in facility. Criminal record check required. Call Gaileen at 388-6664 for details.

WORK ABROAD, EARN $$$, TRAVEL
Hiring monthly, ESL instructors for Taiwan/Korea. Teach adults/children. Monthly salary $1400–$3500 CDN. Airfare, housing, health insurance, training, paid holidays, work visa. Variety of contracts. Grads, soon-to-be grads, all majors welcome. NO FEES CHARGED!!! Fax/email resume, cover letter to: FAX: 204-992-2637, EMAIL: teachersource@yahoo.com or PHONE:204-897-5023.

Domi Frescoes requires enthusiastic artists to be on call to do a variety of mural work. Send brief resume to P.O. Box 30174, Saanich Centre Postal Outlet, Victoria, B.C., V8X 5E1.

Travel/Teach English five days/40 hours, TESOL teacher certificate course (or correspondence). Thousands of jobs available! **Free info pack: 1-888-270-2941.**

George Jay Elementary would like to offer volunteer oportunities to students pursuing a career in Education or Child & Youth Care. Call Tessa Lloyd for more info @ 385-3381.

EASY Money! No Risk! Make between $131,220 and $174,960 by hardly lifting a finger. Call 370-2166 for more details.

Announcements

Join the Jewish Students' Association for an informal vegetarian dinner on Friday, March 19 at 6 p.m. Come out & find out what we're about! Call 370-9488 for details, location, or e-mail <jewish@uvic.ca>. To learn more, visit <http://web.uvic.ca/~jewish>.

Wanted to buy: Chem 232 complete set of notes. Call 472-2242.

Will pick up unwanted futons. Day 385-9904.

Overeaters Anonymous 385-3038.

☛For Sale

1984 Celebrity Station Wagon for sale. Rebuilt engine, new starter alternator, tires and brakes. Have all receipts. Seats 7. Decent gas mileage. $1,500 o.b.o. Leaving for Russia - must sell! Call 475-1959 or e-mail alec.h@home.com

Must Sell - Full set of Spalding golf clubs with bag, $250 o.b.o.; Surfboard, 6'6", red with smokin' artwork, $350 o.b.o.; call Jason at 388-0276.

1994 Mustang for sale. Red with black interior. Great Condition. Great stereo & low km. Leaving the country, must sell-$3,500. Call Jonny @ 721-0393.

× Tutors ×

Spanish Tutor Experienced native speaker. Tutoring and Proof-reading. 995-8507.

English tutor available for help with ESL, essay writing and proof-reading. Reasonable rates. Bente 592-8340.

Employment Services

Resumé Relay Services takes the stress out of finding work! We will use our extensive database to fax your resumé to hundreds of companies within hours, overnight anywhere in Canada. For info call **1-800-545-5069 or www.resumerelay.com**

☛Hey You!

James-the sweater must burn! You are the grooviest! Thanks for all your support–Chopper James-see ya at the Martlet. Your energy shall be positive, wise, revered and loved. And we shall make you sick of pizza and ruin your social life too. Congratulations!!

☛Screw You!

Hi, I'm Dakota, a big retriever that hangs out on campus. I've been talking with other dogs on campus & we're offended by the Hey You! that says we're miserable. Would you rather stay at home for hours or hang out with your friends. I wouldn't have it any other way. So just fuck off!

Billboard Rates

Students, clubs... ...$2 per issue

Non-students... ...$2 per line

Businesses... ...$5 per line

Hey You!... ...$1 per issue

OUR COLLEGES, OUR UNIVERSITIES: CANADA'S FUTURE

Like students and others in our communities, CAW members are concerned about what's happening to our educational system. Post secondary education is about developing students, our communities and our nation to its fullest potential. Our universities and community colleges are keys to a healthy Canada. Why then is the cost of post-secondary education in Canada skyrocketing out of reach for so many? Why are federal and provincial governments dismantling public support for post-secondary education at a time when it's more important than ever?

The facts are clear. There is a growing problem

- **Between 1990 and 1998, Canadian tuition fees increased 123 per cent.**
- **In the last five years, federal cash transfer payments to the provinces for post-secondary education and for training programs has been cut $7 billion.**
- **On average, 1998 graduates carried a $25,000 debt load.**

The concerns of our students are too important to ignore.

- **We need a post-secondary education system that is accessible through adequate funding to people from all economic backgrounds and from all parts of Canada**
- **We need more, not less federal and provincial government support for colleges and universities**
- **We need a national system of grants that doesn't leave post-secondary graduates struggling with huge debt loads just as they enter the workforce.**

What's occurring to Canada's university and college students isn't an isolated problem. The same short-sighted approach and cuts to public funding is taking place in other sectors like health care and affordable housing.

CANADIANS NEED "DOUBLE AA" COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

TELL YOUR LOCAL MP AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE THAT OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE POST SECONDARY EDUCATION

CAW TCA CANADA

www.caw.ca

Source: Canadian Federation of Students

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